

INDIAN PAPERS.

Correspondence relating to Aden.

India Board, }  
28 May 1839.

JOHN HOBHOUSE.

[PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT BY HER MAJESTY'S COMMAND.]

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## Correspondence relating to Aden.

### — No. 1. —

The Superintendent of the Indian Navy to the Governor of Bombay.

Sir,

Bombay, 31 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to forward the copies of letters, as per margin, with the inclosures, relative to the loss of a ship named the Doria Dowlut, which sailed under English colours, and was wrecked near the port of Aden, where she was plundered, and the crew and passengers grievously maltreated by the people of Aden.

It appears from the accompanying reports, that the ship Doria Dowlut was the property of the Nawab of Madras, and had on board two nakhoodas; the one was Lurry Yous, a Mahomedan, or (as called by Acting Commander Haines), Hajee Fridjee; this man was the person who freighted the ship; the other was Syed Moodeen, who sailed and navigated the vessel. This last man has been brought to Bombay, together with two of his people, by Acting Commander Haines. Lurry Yous went in a bugalah to Juddah, and is supposed to have taken some articles of value with him.

From these statements, and also from Acting Commander Haines personally, I learn, that there can hardly be a doubt but that Lurry Yous did intentionally lose the vessel; and there seems no doubt that, excepting what property he was able to make away with, the whole has become a prey to the Sultan of Lahedge or his people. The conduct of this sultan throughout has been that of a barbarous robber.

The facts brought forward by Acting Commander Haines being taken from the personal observation of himself and his officers, may be considered as established.

It is necessary that I should bring to the notice of your Board the conduct of the Company's agent at Mocha, who by no means seems to have done his duty in giving protection to these poor men in their distress; nor does it appear he took any pains to get from them a clear statement of their case, to lay before the senior naval officer.

Acting Commander Haines seems to have acted with his usual decision and judgment, as regards his communication with the sultan, and his governor of Aden, and left them no excuse for their conduct. I trust his having afforded a passage to Bombay to the three individuals as per margin, belonging to the Doria Dowlut, and having victualled them from the ship, will be approved by your Board.

I have, &c.

Charles Malcolm.

Hajee Fridjee,  
and two of his  
people.

### — No. 2. —

Captain Denton, of the Indian Navy, to the Superintendent of the Indian Navy.

(Extract.)

H. C. S. of War Coote, 22 June 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that a ship named the Doria Dowlut, under English colours, and belonging to the Nawab of Madras, was wrecked on the 14th of January last, at three A. M., near Aden; her value upwards of two lacs of rupees. Fourteen lives were lost in effecting a landing; among them the chief and third mates. The cargo was immediately plundered by the chief of Aden, and the surviving part of the crew and passengers were treated in the most brutal

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and

### No. 1.

The Superintendent  
of the Indian Navy  
to the Governor of  
Bombay,  
31 July 1837.

Acting Commander  
Haines's Letter,  
dated 6th July,  
stating facts rela-  
tive to the loss of  
the Doria Dowlut.  
Commander  
Denton's Letter,  
dated 22 June.  
Deposition by  
several persons  
belonging to the  
Doria Dowlut.

### No. 2.

Captain Denton to  
the Superintendent  
of the Indian Navy,  
22 June 1837.



and cruel manner by the Bedouins. Among the passengers were several respectable females on their pilgrimage to Mecca. Commander Haines, on his last visit to Aden, made inquiries into the case, and will give you an account of the whole transaction.

— No. 3. —

Captain *Haines*, of the Indian Navy, to the Superintendent of the Indian Navy.

H. C. Surveying Brig *Palinurus*, at Sea,  
6 July 1837.

Sir,

No. 3.  
Captain Haines to  
the Superintendent  
of the Indian Navy,  
6 July 1837.

\* Aden is the sea  
port of Lahedge,  
the capital from  
which is distant 16  
miles. At Aden is  
a governor, who is  
subject to the  
Sultan of Lahedge.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that when at Aden\*, in April, I found that the property recovered from the wrecked ship *Doria Dowlut*, under English colours, belonging to Madras, was disposed of in the bazaar, at not one-third its value. I therefore took the liberty of informing the Sultan of Lahedge and Aden, that the property and ship were British, and desired that he would take care of all recovered property until arranged by authority from India. I also informed him, that I was convinced the British Government would require from him a particular explanation of their reason for plunder, and subsequent ill-treatment to the parties wrecked. His answer was, "that he had not ill-treated them, nor had he recovered any property. He further intreated me to visit him at Lahedge, when he would explain circumstances fully." In answer, I declined, informing him that duty prevented such a distant visit, and that I only in the first instance wished to point out the error he had been led into; and that a different line of conduct was expected from a friendly ally. He then sent the governor of Aden to explain matters to me, every part of which I knew to be false, which I pointed out to him; he at last offered me her anchors, chain-cables, &c., which I declined receiving, telling him I had no authority to act; but that I again recommended them, if they esteemed the friendship of the British, at least to preserve the property for the rightful owners, who would no doubt fully remunerate them for their trouble and exertion in saving it.

From Aden I wrote to the agent at Mocha, (knowing the *Euphrates* was not there) to obtain every information from the people who were shipwrecked, and had by a bugalah proceeded there. On my return, finding the information insufficient, I obtained further from her commander, and some merchants who were passengers in the vessel when lost, the whole of which I do myself the honour to submit for your information, and by which you will perceive that the conduct of the Aden people was most infamous, and their treatment to the female passengers (some of which were respectable) was both disgusting and disgraceful in the extreme. Fortunately no European female was in the ship, or they most probably would have shared the same fate.

I am much inclined to think that the ship was wrecked purposely, the property being well insured; said to be for more than its real value. My reason for supposing that she was run on shore on purpose is, because *Nakhooda Hajee Fridgee*, the owner of the property, was more than once asked to heave the lead, and alter the course, as the water was evidently discoloured; he refused, until the men did it against his orders. They were then in half three, and she immediately grounded, about four miles N. N. E. of Aden. She was plundered by the Lahedge and Aden Arabs of the *Abdalee* tribe, the sultan's eldest son being present. The plunder was disposed of by the government of Aden, principally through the sultan's agent; I am certain entirely for the benefit of the sultan.

The *nakhooda* of the wrecked ship on the part of the Nawab of Madras, to whom she belonged, and one of the merchants, being in distress, and wishing to return to their native country, I have given them a passage in the vessel under my command, upon native allowance of provisions, which act I hope will meet your approval.

I have, &c.

*S. B. Haines.*



## — No. 4. —

STATEMENT of Facts relative to the Loss of the Ship Doria Dowlut, with the signatures of the Nakhooda and others wrecked in her, thereto.

No. 4.  
Statement of  
facts relative to the  
loss of the ship  
Doria Dowlut.

THE ship Doria Dowlut, belonging to the Nawab of Madras, under English colours, was freighted for the voyage to and from Juddah by Hajee Ensof, for the sum of 8,250 rupees. Her cargo consisted of sugar, silks, shawls, cloth, kinkaub and other kinds, 600 bottles of attar of roses, and other articles from Elbian; we took pepper, cocoa-nut oil, and cloth, with numerous passengers, some of whom were respectable, with their families.

We arrived safe at Cochin, and received more bales of cloth; then left for the Red Sea. On the 14th January, at three o'clock A.M., we ran on shore in Goobut Saylan. As daylight dawned, we were surrounded by Bedouins from Aden, who seized our boats, and came on board, when the scene of plunder commenced: the women were driven aloft, while chest and baggage was plundered; they were then permitted to go with me on a raft we constructed to save our lives. As we drew near the shore, I was seized, as well as the rest, dipped under water several times, and then stript naked; the females were treated the same in regard to clothing, but underwent the most disgusting insults, and were most indelicately examined to ascertain if they had money or jewels hid, and some of the best-looking were only saved from being taken away by the intercession of a priest. Having satisfied themselves we had no property, we were driven away, and we all, both male and female, proceeded to Aden in a state of nudity, where, through the kindness of the priest, Syed Zair Hydroose, we were supplied with a coarse waist covering and some food. Most fortunately a bugalah, under English colours, belonging to Sheik Abdulla Suffee, was at anchor, from Bombay; he took compassion upon us, gave us food, and a passage to Mocha. Before quitting Aden, the Sultan, hearing of my being on board the bugalah, sent some Bedouins on board, and took me on shore, where he obliged me to sign a paper, under fear of death, to say they had not ill-treated us; thus compelled, to save life, and to escape from their hands, I signed a falsehood.

I arrived safe at Mocha, and met the late acting agent, Abdool Russool, who gave me a man to take me to the agent. On my arriving there, I was directed to come to-morrow; I did so, and he gave me one dollar for food for myself and crew. He asked me if I had witnesses to prove all I had said, and he took their depositions. He afterwards gave me two dollars more. Such sums being insufficient for myself and crew for many days, we were obliged to beg, which we did until Dwarka, a Banian, fed us, and provided us with a passage to Juddah, to see the captain of the Government ship there.

On my arrival at Juddah, the Euphrates had left for Mocha, so I returned again to Mocha in Zachariah's ship, the commander of which kindly took compassion on me and some of my men; and some acquaintances have clothed me.

The ship was valuable; I should think she had two lacs of property on board.

Witness the truth thereof,

*Syed Nouradeen Nakhoodah Peroo.*

*Hajee Mambaruck.*

*Hamed ben Salem Bakajee.*

*Hydros ben Allomjee.*

*Syed Mahomed Amar ben Atdunubbee.*

## — No. 5. —

The Native Agent at Mocha to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

(A. C.)

21 June 1837.

I BEG to state, that Syed Nouradeen Bokhari presented a petition to me regarding a vessel which had been wrecked off Aden, in consequence of which I took the depositions of the lookanee, serang, and misturees, in their own writing, as to the circumstances that occurred.

268.

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I then

No. 5.  
Native Agent to  
the Secretary to  
the Bombay  
Government,  
21 June 1837.



I then told the above Syed Nouradeen that the Euphrates, Captain Rogers, was expected from Juddah; that he should stay in Mocha, and that on his (Captain Rogers') arrival, I would adopt such measures as might be deemed proper by the Captain.

Syed Nouradeen, however, went to Juddah, and did not remain at Mocha; in the meantime the Euphrates arrived from Juddah, when I brought the above petition to the notice of Captain Rogers, and he asked where Syed Nouradeen was; I said he had gone to Juddah. Captain Rogers then rejoined, that had Syed Nouradeen been present, measures would have been adopted.

Afterwards the Coote, Captain Denton, came in from Bombay, and I mentioned to him also the subject of the petition. Meanwhile Syed Nouradeen returned from Juddah, and visited Captain Denton on board the Coote, when the Captain told him to see him in company with me: he accordingly came to me, and as I was sick at the time, I told him that I would accompany him after a few days. To this he assented; but he did not appear again. I, however, sent for him, when he said he would come after seeing Captain Haines.

Afterwards Captain Haines caused me to be informed, that Captain Denton intended to be on shore; and Syed Nouradeen told me that he had withdrawn the petition given to me.

I have heard from private sources that Syed Nouradeen has got an adviser, by whose advice he acts. He intends to go to Bombay in the Palinurus.

I enclose herein the petition and the depositions of the witnesses. The Nakhooda, Ahmed ben Khundar, of the wrecked vessel, has not come to me to enable me to make an inquiry.

I beg you will be pleased to apprise the Governor in Council of all the above particulars.

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— No. 6. —

No. 6.  
Petition from Syed  
Nouradeen  
Bokhari to  
the Bombay  
Government.

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SUBSTANCE of a Petition from Syed Nouradeen Bokhari to the Bombay Government, without date, accompanying the Mocha Agent's Letter of 21 June 1837.

THE complaint of Syed Nouradeen Bokhari, agent of the ship Doria Dowlut, belonging to Nawab Ahmed Nissa Begum, of Madras, is, that one Lurry Yous hired the above vessel, and employed a nakhooda (native captain), by name Ahmed ben Khundar, on his part, to superintend the cargo, as also a molim (pilot); that at the port of Calcutta the ship was laden with 3,450 bags of rice, 70 of sugar, and 25 bundles of piece goods, and she sailed to Aleppee, where also she took on board 350 bags of rice.

That on the arrival of the vessel at Aleppee, Syed Nouradeen (complainant), the agent of the ship, told the nakhooda to dismiss the molim placed by Lurry Yous; to which the nakhooda replied, that the molim belonged to him, and could not therefore be discharged, and that Lurry Yous had given him (the molim) full authority; when Syed Nouradeen rejoined, that he (the nakhooda) should hold himself responsible for any accident that might happen to the vessel; to testify which I can produce witnesses.

That from Aleppee the ship weighed anchor for Cochin, where she received on board 35 bundles of cloth, of Malabar manufacture; and then she sailed onward to Mocha, and arrived in some days off Aden, and got the jolly-boat in readiness.

Next day a person said to the molim "the coast is near, and do not let the ship sail fast"; these words were, however, not listened to. The serang also said that the land was in sight, and that the waters of the sea appeared white; three hours after the lookanee repeated the same to the molim, who however did not attend to any one of them. Syed Nouradeen (petitioner) then went to the nakhooda, and said, "All persons tell your molim that the land is in sight, and the waters of the sea appear whitish, but he will not listen to any of them." Nakhooda Ahmed replied, "whatever my molim does, I must consent to."

Three hours after midnight the vessel struck the ground, and Syed Nouradeen told the nakhooda and the molim to throw the cargo overboard, that the weight might be lightened, and the vessel might get off; but this was not assented to.

At day-break Nakhooda Ahmed ran away in the jolly-boat, and 10 hours after the molim and all the crew also got into the jolly-boat, and went away; the boat, however,



however, was upset in the way, and the molim and 10 of the crew were drowned; some lascars only got to the shore.

The vessel was left by all except Syed Nouradeen and five other persons, who had taken up their position on the mast for the whole day and night.

Nakhooda Ahmed sent boats to clear the ship of the cargo, but Syed Nouradeen and the other five persons were not taken into the boats; they, however, followed that boat on pieces of plank tied together, and reached the shore, where the Arabs plundered them. They afterwards arrived at Aden, and remained there for 15 days.

The nakhooda was securing the guns, and the other things in the vessel, and after 15 days the Sultan of Aden told Syed Nouradeen (petitioner), that he should take away the things belonging to the ship, and pay him 10 kooroosh (piastres) for every hundred kooroosh worth of those things.

Syed Nouradeen replied, that after such a length of time the things on board had almost all been lost; that he did not require them, nor had he money to pay for them.

The Sultan then demanded a writing from him, stating that he had no claim on the Sultan on account of the vessel, and threatened them with detention in case he refused to give the release notes.

I (Syed Nouradeen) accordingly passed a writing to the effect that I had not the least claim on the Sultan, but that my claim existed against Lurry Yous. To prove this I have witnesses.

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— No. 7. —

DEPOSITION by several Persons belonging to the wrecked ship Doria Dowlut, the Property of the Nawab of Madras, lately wrecked off Aden, which had been taken up by a native of Mocha, named Lurry Yous.

No. 7.  
Deposition of persons belonging to the ship Doria Dowlut.

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WE sailed from Calcutta on the 16th Ramazan (25th December 1836) 1252 Hegira, in the ship Doria Dowlut, belonging to the Nawab of Madras, which Lurry Yous had taken up at Calcutta, to go to Juddah and return thence.

There were 3,450 bags of rice on board, 80 bags of sugar, and 25 pieces of Bengal cloths, &c., and 12 small parcels, and 12 jars of preserves, and one large box of brocades, and 600 boxes of attar, and the rest is known well by Lurry Yous.

From Aleppee was also embarked rice, ginger, and pepper, and cocoa-nut oil (25 casks full), eight cases of cloth, and two chests besides.

From Cochin 35 bundles of cloths. We then sailed (for Arabia), and our ship was wrecked off Aden on the 14th Zilkau (20th February 1837), and the people of Aden came and plundered us, and we threw ourselves into the sea, and some of us got into boats; the boats, however, upset, and 10 persons were drowned.

The Aden people took the goods away from the ship, but would not save the people.

Among those people who escaped safely to the shore were some women. These they made naked, and searched for gold.

They recognized me, Nouradeen, who was on the part of the Nawab, and they kept me forcibly under the water; but God preserved my life.

I arrived at the port of Aden, and I wished to go to Mocha, and some people were with me; we hired a boat belonging to Syed Abdulla Suffee, for 23 rials.

As I was about to leave, two soldiers came and turned me back, and told me to give a writing that we had no demand against the Sultan, or they would throw me into confinement.

This writing I gave in the presence of Syed Abdulla Suffee, viz., that I had no complaint; in order that I might escape out of the hands of these villains.

I then went with the Syed to Mocha, and I met Abdool Russool, and asked him where the house of the British agent was; he gave a man to accompany me, and I went to the house of the vakeel.

The vakeel told me to come to-morrow. I went another day, but did not find him at home; the third day I saw him, and he gave me one rial.

He told me to state in writing what had happened to me.

I wrote a statement, and carried it to him; he asked if I had witnesses, and I took the witnesses I had to him. He took down the names of the witnesses in writing, and kept it with him.



An English ship then arrived from Juddah, and was going to Bombay. I asked the vakeel to put me on board to go to Bombay, when he told me the ship would not take any one.

Then the steamer arrived. I wished to go to the captain, but the vakeel said he would go to him about my affairs. The vakeel, however, returned, and said the steamer would not take any one.

As we knew no one, and had nothing, we went to a banian, who gave us a place, and money for our expenses; and we went every day to the house of the vakeel to see him, but they turned us away from the door.

We suffered much, and we cried grievously at the door of the vakeel.

Afterwards we went with the sailors in a bugalah to Juddah, and we wished to find a Government ship, but when we came to Juddah the Government vessel had gone to Mocha.

We then went in the ship of Zachariah to Mocha.

When at Mocha I went to the captain of the Coote, who asked me who I was, and whence I came. I told him that I was the nakhooda of the Nawab's ship, which had been wrecked near Aden.

The captain then asked me why I had not gone to the vakeel.

I said I had gone to him; the captain said the vakeel said I had not waited on him.

He then told me that he did not understand my language, and that I should go to the vakeel.

I then went to the captain of the Palinurus, as I heard he had a Government moonshee on board.

The captain told me to give a statement of my case to him in writing; and this is the same.

*Syed Nouradeen.*

*Hajee Mambaruck.*

*Jaffen Moonshee.*

*Uedrood bin Allanee bin.*

*Abdoolla ool Justenit boa Allovec.*

I testify as to the acts of the people of Aden.

*Syed ben Abdoor Nubbee.*

And other signatures undecypherable.

— No. 8. —

No. 8.

Memorandum by  
the Secretary to the  
Bombay Govern-  
ment, 7 August  
1837.

MEMORANDUM by the Secretary to the Bombay Government; dated  
7 August 1837.

IN consequence of the very serious outrage committed against the people and passengers on board the Doria Dowlut, a ship belonging, it is said, to the Nawab of the Carnatic, and sailing under British colours, by the Sultan of Aden, it will probably be requisite for this Government to take strong measures for exacting reparation.

Having found that the parties were in Bombay, I requested the senior magistrate of police to take their depositions, in order that Government might have proper documentary evidence before them, as the statements already received were rather unsatisfactory, and had not been taken before a magistrate.

I now circulate these depositions, and respectfully suggest that they should be sent up to the Governor; the former proceedings being at Dapoolee.

*W. H. Wathen.*

— No. 9. —

No. 9.

Affidavit of Syed  
Nouradeen,  
1 August 1837.

The Information of Syed Nouradeen bin Jamal, inhabitant of Bombay, taken upon oath before me Edward Eden Elliot, Esq., one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the town and island of Bombay, on Tuesday, the 1st day of August 1837,

Saith, I am a native of Columbo, where my wife and family are now living. About four years ago I went to Calcutta, and was there employed by Captain Jellicoe, as nakhooda of one of his vessels which traded to the Malay coast, and I left that employ, in consequence of sickness, about a year and a half ago.

On



On the 1st of Ramazan last (10 December 1836), I was appointed nakhooda of a barque called the Doria Dowlut, of 225 tons, which vessel belonged to Begum Ahmed Nissa, mother of the present Nawab of Madras. I received a letter from the said Begum appointing me to the situation. I took charge of the Doria Dowlut from a person named Luchmee Pursad, who had navigated the vessel from Madras. She had then been freighted by an Arab merchant, Fridjee Ensof, to take a cargo of rice, sugar, and piece goods, to Juddah, and was then loading: the goods marked "A" in the annexed list were shipped. About three days afterwards the chief officer came to my house on shore, and told me that the ship was completely laden, and that the Arab merchant before-mentioned wanted to put some more freight into her. I desired him to report the circumstances to the before-mentioned Luchmee Pursad, who acted as an agent to the vessel, and who had freighted her to the Arab. Luchmee Pursad sent the officer to inform the merchant that the vessel was overladen, and to require that he would send no more freight on board. The officer went as directed, and the merchant discharged him, and engaged another person named Abdulla Muscatta in his place. On the 17th of Ramazan (26th December 1836), the vessel was ready for sea, and I went on board of her. Her crew was composed of one nakhooda, one supercargo, two officers, one serang, one tindal, one lookanee, one carpenter, and 22 kalashees; there were also on board as passengers 10 pilgrims. We sailed from Calcutta on the same day, and three days afterwards we arrived at Saugor, where the pilot left the vessel. Soon after he had gone, the supercargo, Ahmed Bokhider, produced a paper written in the Arabic language, signed by Luchmee Pursad, and the Arab merchant who had freighted the vessel. It was agreed, as stated in the paper, between the parties aforesaid, that the ship was to be commanded and navigated by the chief officer Abdulla, under the immediate orders of the supercargo, and that I had no authority in the command or navigation of the vessel; but that my duty was merely to see that the vessel and her stores were not injured. I accordingly gave up the command, and took no further responsibility upon myself; the chief officer on taking charge directed the ship's course towards the Andaman Islands, instead of going towards Ceylon. The vessel sailed in that direction four days, when I asked the second officer, Sheik Mahomed, what course they were steering; he replied, "towards Andaman." I asked him why they were going to Andaman; he replied he did not know, that he was not in command of the ship. I then went to the supercargo, who was then in his cabin, and told him that the ship was not going on her proper course; that she was going towards Andaman, instead of Ceylon. The supercargo called the chief officer Abdulla, and asked him why he was steering the vessel out of her course; Abdulla said he was keeping her on that course in order to avoid a strong current which sets from the eastward through the straits which separate Ceylon from the continent of India. I said that there was no current, and that there was no danger. The supercargo and Abdulla then asked me if I would be answerable for any damage that might be done by their steering direct to Ceylon; I told them that I would, and the vessel's course was then changed. When we had sailed nine days towards Ceylon, I asked the 2d officer when we would see the land; he said, "To-morrow morning." Early the following morning the 2d officer called me on the poop, gave me a spy-glass, and requested me to look in the direction he pointed out; I looked through the glass, and distinctly saw the land. Abdulla was present, and said it was not the land, but merely a cloud, and that we would not see land for two days more. In the course of an hour, however, the land was quite visible with the naked eye. I then went to the supercargo, and told him, that if it had been night, in all probability the ship would have run on shore, and been lost, as the chief officer Abdulla said that we should not see land for two days, which was then within a few miles of us. The supercargo then directed the 2d officer to steer the vessel to Aleppee, where we arrived on the 10th of Shavuleed (10th January 1837). We remained there for four or five days, and received some more freight marked "B" in the annexed list on board; and also 17 passengers, among whom was a Singapore merchant, named Syed Tippoo ben Abdul Nubee, with his family. The ship was then very much overladen, and I requested the supercargo to discharge the chief officer, and engage another; he told me he had not the power to do so, that Abdulla had been engaged by the merchant who owned the cargo, and that it was not in his power to discharge him. I then told him that I would not be responsible for any accident that may occur to the vessel. We sailed from Aleppee, and the next day put in at Cochin, where one of the cables, the messenger, and other



ship's stores were thrown overboard to make room for more freight; and the articles marked "C" in the annexed list were taken on board. I remonstrated against throwing the stores overboard, when the supercargo said I had nothing to do with the ship, and that they would do as they liked. We remained at Cochin two days, and then sailed for Juddah on the 14th of Zilkaud (17th February), at noon. When the 2d officer had finished taking the sun, I asked him when we should see the land; he said that at midnight we should be abreast of Aden. The chief officer said we were a long way off the land, and that we would not be able to reach Aden that night. That night I sat on the deck talking with Syed Tippoo aforesaid, until 12 o'clock, when Abdulla came and asked the 2d officer, who changed the course more to seaward, why he was keeping the ship so far from the land; the 2d officer said that the land was very near, and that if he kept her on the course she had before gone, she would run ashore. Abdulla said that the land was a great distance off, and ordered the vessel to be steered as before. About two o'clock in the morning the serang came and told the chief officer that the water was white, and requested to be allowed to heave the lead; Abdulla abused him, and ordered him to go forward. I then told the supercargo that Abdulla was steering the vessel on shore; he desired me not to interfere, that I had nothing to do with it. Soon afterwards one of the lookanees came and told Abdulla that he could hear the breakers; Abdulla also abused him, and ordered him forward. About half an hour after this, at three o'clock, the vessel struck on the shore; nothing was done to try to save the vessel; the anchor was not let go, and the sails were allowed to remain unfurled. The vessel remained beating against the beach until six o'clock, when the anchor was let go, and the supercargo, with four kalashees, left the ship in the jolly-boat for Aden, which we could see at some distance. The vessel made a great deal of water, but was kept clear with the pumps until 10 o'clock, when they were choked with sand, and there was then six feet water in the hold. The chief officer then ordered out the long-boat, which I observed was cleared away two days before. As soon as the long-boat was put in the water, the two officers, and the whole of the crew, got into it; I also attempted to get into it, but the chief officer cut the rope which held it to the ship, and they rowed towards the shore. When they reached the breakers the boat upset, and I was afterwards told at Aden, that the two officers, and a number of the crew, were drowned. About four o'clock in the afternoon two small bugalahs came to the ship from Aden; their crews came on board, and plundered the passengers of their baggage, and loaded their boats with the vessel's cargo. The wife and mother-in-law of Syed Tippoo gave the Arabs 200 dollars to take them on shore, which they did about five o'clock in the afternoon. The vessel filled with water, and the sea, when the tide rose, washed on her. I and the passengers went into the tops, where we remained all night. One old woman was washed overboard. The next day the same two bugalahs came again to the vessel; we asked them to take us on shore, or give us some food, but they refused to do either; they loaded their boats, and went away as they had done before. At night we again ascended to the tops, and the following day we constructed a raft, and I, Syed Tippoo, and three others, two of whom were females, went on shore on it, and as we left the ship, I saw a boat coming towards it. We reached the shore, and before we had time to land, several Arabs, who were on the beach, knocked us back again into the water, and then laid hold of us, took the whole of our clothes off us, and brutally insulted the females. They then went away, leaving us naked; and soon afterwards a horseman came there, and seeing us in that state, gave each of us a small piece of cloth; we then proceeded to Aden, where a syed gave us some clothes and food. We found several of the crew at Aden, who informed us that the two officers and some of the crew had been drowned when the long-boat upset.

The syed who gave us the clothes and food, told us that he, at the request of Syed Tippoo's wife, had sent a boat to the wreck to bring off the passengers, who soon afterwards arrived, after having been plundered of their clothes and other valuables by the Arabs, as they landed from the boat. While we remained at Aden, I saw the whole of the Doria Dowlut's cargo, store, &c. brought to the custom-house. The cargo taken in at Calcutta was divided into three shares, and the Sultan of Aden took two shares, and the supercargo, Ahmed Bokhider, took the other; the remainder of the cargo and stores were taken by the Sultan. After remaining in Aden 15 days, I engaged a passage in an Arab bugalah to Mocha, for myself and the crew and passengers of the Doria Dowlut; and as we



we were embarking at the bunder of Tavoy, about six miles from Aden, two of the sultan's sepoy's came and took me into custody; they carried me back to Aden, and then took me before the sultan's son, who offered me 4,000 dollars if I would give him a written promise that I would not make a report to the British authorities regarding the loss and plunder of the *Doria Dowlut*. I did not agree to this, and was sent to prison. The same day, about four o'clock in the afternoon, I was taken to the house of the syed before alluded to. The minister of the sultan and several other Arabs were there; the minister requested me to sign a paper which was written, and explained to me by the nakhooda of the bugalah in which I had engaged a passage to Mocha. This document was a declaration that I would not make any complaint to the British Government against the Sultan of Aden, about the plunder of the ship. I refused to sign it; and the minister and the other persons present advised me to do so, saying, that if I did not do it, I would be put in a cave in a mountain and not be allowed any food. I was afraid that they would kill me, and I therefore signed the paper; but I did not receive the dollars. The following morning I was set at liberty. I immediately proceeded to the bunder and embarked, with the crew and passengers of the *Doria Dowlut*, on board of the bugalah, and the same day we sailed for Mocha, where we arrived, after being two days at sea. We landed on the bunder, and proceeded to the gate of the town, where we met a person named Abdool Russool, whom I requested to point out the house of the Company's vakeel: he pointed out the house, and we all went there. The vakeel, Sheik Tijeb, came out of his house and asked who we were. I told him the circumstances connected with the loss of the vessel, as above deposed. The vakeel then told me, if I would give him 10,000 dollars, he would manage my business properly. I told him I had no money, or anything in the world except the piece of cloth round my waist. He then requested that I would give him an order on my master for that sum, which I refused to do. He then ordered us to go away. I told him we were quite destitute, and had nothing to eat. He replied, "Go away, I will give you nothing." We went away, and remained that night in the town without any food. The following day we again went to the vakeel; I told him that we were the subjects of the Company, and utterly destitute, and as he was their agent, I requested him to give us something to eat: he gave me three dollars, and told me to go and get a statement of my case written out; and he also requested all of the others who were able to write to make out a statement of the case. About eight days afterwards we went again to the vakeel with our written statements; there were four besides mine; we were then starving for food. I asked the vakeel to give us some more money; he refused to give us any, and drove us from his door. The following day I again went to the vakeel, and told him that if he did not give me some food our people would die. The vakeel said nothing, but one of his meanest servants gave me a shove which nearly threw me down. A sepoy of the moonshee of the commander of the *Palinurus* was standing by, and saw this occurrence. The same day a Banian merchant, named Dwarka, met us in the road, and seeing our destitute and naked condition, asked what was the matter. I told him how we came to Mocha, and of the usage we had received from the Company's vakeel. He took us to his house and provided us with food, and gave us a room to live in. One day, while we were living with the Banian, a steamer came to Mocha, and so soon as I heard of her arrival, I went to the bunder to endeavour to get on board of her; I had no money to pay for a boat; while I was waiting there, the vakeel came and asked me what I was doing; I told him I was watching for an opportunity to get on board the steamer; he said it was no use for me to go, as the captain could do nothing for us; he had no order to give any one a passage. I then returned home, and soon afterwards one of the kalashees of the *Doria Dowlut* told me that he knew one of the steamer's boat's crew, and had gone on board with him, and that he had reported to the captain the loss of the *Doria Dowlut*, told him that her crew were starving on shore, and requested him to give them a passage to Bombay; he also said that the captain of the steamer said that they were then heaving up the anchor to go away, and that he could not wait for them, otherwise he should have been very glad to take them. We remained there 23 days, when I was informed that one of the Company's vessels was at Juddah; I therefore dispatched the crew and passengers of the *Doria Dowlut* to that place in different bugalahs, and also went there myself. When we reached Juddah the ship was not there, and I was informed that it had gone to Mocha. We remained at Juddah about seven days, and then sailed for Mocha



in a ship belonging to Hajee Zachariah, of Bombay. When we reached Mocha, we found two Company's vessels there, the Coote and Palinurus. I immediately went on board the Coote, and told the captain about the loss of the vessel. He asked me why I did not come to Mocha at first; I told him that I had left Mocha a month and a half before in quest of a Company's vessel. The captain said that the vakeel told him that I had not been there, and then directed me to go to Captain Haines of the Palinurus, and relate the whole of the circumstances to him. I then went on shore, and met Captain Haines's moonshee, who took me to his master. I related all the circumstances connected with the wreck as above deposed. Captain Haines asked me why I did not come to Mocha, and go to the Company's vakeel; I told him that I did come to Mocha, and also how the vakeel had ill-used us, as before stated. The vakeel was sent for, and Captain Haines asked him if I had applied for relief; he said that I had, but that I was not a nakhooda. The captain then sent me with a note to the kazee to prove that I had been appointed nakhooda of the Doria Dowlut; the kazee examined several witnesses which I brought forward, one of whom was a Bengal merchant, who had seen the letter from the Begum appointing me; the kazee sent a copy of his proceedings, which proved that I was nakhooda of the Doria Dowlut, to Captain Haines, who sent for the vakeel, and desired him to read them; he did so, but did not say a word. Captain Haines then took down my statement of the loss of the Doria Dowlut. We remained at Mocha about a fortnight, and I, Syed Tippoo, and the carpenter of the ship, embarked in the Palinurus, and arrived in Bombay on the 13th of July. Further I say not.

*Syed Nouradeen.*

Taken and sworn, the day, month and year herein first above written, before me,  
*E. E. Elliot,*  
 Justice of the Peace.

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— No. 10. —

No. 10.  
 Deposition of Syed  
 Tippoo,  
 2 August 1837.

The Deposition of Syed Tippoo ben Abdonebee, inhabitant of Bombay, taken upon oath before me Edward Eden Elliot, Esq., one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the town and island of Bombay, on Wednesday, the 2d of August 1837:—

Says,—I am a general merchant, and reside at Singapore. I left Singapore in the month of December last on board the ship Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, to proceed to Bombay, and thence on a pilgrimage to Juddah. I took with me my wife, her mother, three other females, and a servant; I also shipped goods, as per list, which I intended to dispose of in Arabia. On the 3d of January, the Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy was cast away on Ceylon; the whole of the cargo was saved, and landed at the custom-house at Point de Galle. I took a passage to Aleppee for myself and family in a schooner, bringing with us our baggage, and the goods named in the list; the day after my arrival at Aleppee, the Doria Dowlut came there, and understanding that she was bound to Juddah, I agreed with the supercargo Ahmed Bokhider to take my family and goods there for 70 dollars, and the following day we were embarked. Two days afterwards we sailed, and the next day put in at Cochin, where some goods belonging to Hajee Zachariah were taken on board. We remained there two days, and then sailed for Juddah. One night about 12 o'clock, when we had been some days at sea, the nakhooda of the ship, Syed Nouradeen, and I were sitting near the compass talking; the second officer was on watch, and the chief officer came to him, and asked him, why he was not steering the ship her proper course. The second officer replied, that if the ship was kept on the same course she had before gone, she would run on shore. The chief officer then said, "It is now past 12 o'clock, and is my watch on deck, you therefore may go to your berth." I then went away and fell asleep; when I awoke at three o'clock there was a great noise on deck, and I felt some severe shocks. I immediately went on deck, and found that the vessel had been run on shore. I requested the chief officer to furl the sails, and to let go the anchor; I also desired the supercargo to throw overboard a part of the cargo to lighten the vessel, that she might float off; neither of them paid any attention to me, and nothing was done to try to save the vessel. After day-break, the supercargo and four kalashees lowered down the jolly-boat, and rowed towards Aden, which we could see. About 10 o'clock the  
 pumps



pumps choked, and the vessel began to fill with water. The chief officer then ordered the long-boat to be hoisted out, and he and the whole of the crew got into it, but the chief officer cut the rope and prevented us; the boat then pulled towards the shore, and when it got among the breakers, it upset. About four o'clock in the afternoon two bugalahs came from Aden to the wreck; their crews came on board; the first things they seized were my goods and baggage, which they put into one of the bugalahs; and then I offered them 200 dollars, to take my wife and daughter, and my mother-in-law, on shore; they agreed to it, and accordingly took them. About five o'clock the sea rose and washed over the vessel; one woman was washed overboard. We, in consequence of the danger of remaining on deck, went up in the tops, and remained there all night. The following morning the two bugalahs returned, and their crews again loaded them; I begged of them to take us on shore, or give us something to eat; they would not do either, but left us on the wreck without any food; we again went into the tops, and remained all night. The following morning we constructed a raft, and I, the nakhooda, two of my women, and my servant, got on to it, and reached the shore, where a number of Arabs attacked us, and stripped us quite naked, and brutally ill-used the women. We lay on the sand some time, and a trooper came to us, and seeing our condition, he gave us each a small piece of cloth. We then proceeded to Aden, and a syed took us into his house, and gave us some food and clothing. I found my wife at the syed's house; she told us that the Arabs stripped her of her jewels and clothes; she also said, that she had sent a boat to bring us from the wreck. I saw that the whole of the cargo, stores, &c., of the Doria Dowlut were taken to the custom-house at Aden.

I went there and saw them, and I was informed by the Syed, with whom I stopped, that one-third of the cargo shipped in Bengal was to be given to the supercargo, and all the rest was to be taken by the Sultan. We remained in Aden 15 days, and then proceeded to Tavoy bunder to embark in a bugalah for Mocha. As we were going on board, the nakhooda was seized by two persons, and taken back to Aden. He returned the following day, and we sailed for Mocha. When we arrived there, the nakhooda and the crew went to the Company's vakeel to ask for something to eat, and to report the loss of the Doria Dowlut. I did not go with them; I remained in a verandah with my family. The nakhooda returned, and said that he could not get any relief from the vakeel. A day or two afterwards I went myself to the vakeel's house, and requested him to give me something to eat for my wife and family. The vakeel said that he could give me nothing, and he could not recover what I had lost. The following day the nakhooda came to me, and said that the vakeel wanted my wife, to give her something. I sent my wife and the two other females with the nakhooda. About an hour afterwards my wife and her two companions returned crying. My wife said that the vakeel gave the nakhooda three rupees, and sent him away, and that he then said to her, "Your husband is now poor; he has nothing for you to eat; you had better come and live in my house with me." A day or two afterwards we all went to the house of a Banian, where we remained 23 days, when I went to Juddah, thence to Mecca. I again returned to Juddah, and embarked on board of a vessel belonging to Sheik Dhie, of Bombay, for Mocha; when we arrived there I found two of the Company's vessels there, and also the nakhooda and crew of the Doria Dowlut. The nakhooda took me before Captain Haines, who read the nakhooda's statement to me, and I attested it. A few days afterwards I embarked on the Palinurus, and arrived in Bombay on the 13th of last month. Further I say not.

*Syed Tippoo ben Abdonebee.*

Taken and sworn, the day, month and year herein first written, before me,

*E. E. Elliot,*  
Justice of the Peace.

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— No. 11. —

The Deposition of Peer Mahomed Mistree, inhabitant of Bombay, taken upon oath before me, Edward Eden Elliot, Esq., one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the town and island of Bombay, on Thursday, the 3d day of August 1837, says,

I am a carpenter, and was employed two years in the late ship Doria Dowlut. In the month of Shovel Eed (January), I sailed from Calcutta in the

No. 11.  
Deposition of  
Peer Mahomed,  
3 August 1837.



said Doria Dowlut, then bound to Juddah; the name of the nakhooda was Syed Nouradeen, and the supercargo's name was Ahmed Bokhider. When we had been at sea some days we put in at Aleppee, and took in some cargo and pilgrims. We then sailed for Cochin, where we took in some more cargo and pilgrims, and the following day put to sea for Juddah. About 16 or 18 days after we sailed from Cochin, one morning about three o'clock the vessel ran on shore: no effort was made to get her off, and about six o'clock the supercargo and four kalashees got into the jolly-boat and went to Aden, which could be seen from the vessel. At eight o'clock the ship began to make a great deal of water; we commenced pumping, and at 10 o'clock both pumps were choked with sand. The vessel then filled with water. The chief officer, Abdulla, on seeing the pumps rendered useless, ordered out the long-boat, which, when we left Cochin, was filled with robins, but was cleared out two days before the ship struck. When the long-boat was brought alongside, the two officers, the whole of the crew, and some of the passengers, got into it. I was in it; we cast off from the ship, and pulled towards the shore. When we came to the breakers the boat upset, and I reached the shore with great difficulty. On landing, the Arabs stript me, and also some others who escaped. About 25 of us were saved from the boat, and nine were drowned, including the two officers. When we had got collected together we went to Aden, where a Syed gave us each a small piece of cloth and something to eat. Two days afterwards the nakhooda came from the ship, and also the passengers who had been left; we were at Aden about a fortnight when the nakhooda took us to a bunder about six miles from the town, in order to embark in a bugalah for Mocha. As we were going on board two persons from Aden took the nakhooda into custody, and took him away; he returned the following day, when we went on board the bugalah and proceeded to Mocha; when we reached that place we went to the Company's vakeel, who gave the nakhooda three dollars, with which he purchased food, and divided it amongst us. We afterwards went several times to the vakeel to ask him for something to purchase food, but he always returned us evasive answers, and did not give us any more than the three dollars before mentioned. One day a Banian merchant met us in the street, and when he was made acquainted with our destitute condition, he gave us a room in his house to live in, and fed us for three weeks. The nakhooda told us that he had heard that one of the Company's ships was at Juddah, and therefore dispatched us in different bugalahs to that place. When we arrived at Juddah no Company's vessel was there; we remained about 17 days, and then returned to Mocha in a ship belonging to Hajee Zachariah of Bombay. Two Company's vessels were there, the Coote and the Palinurus; we remained at Mocha about a fortnight or three weeks, and then I came to Bombay in the Palinurus. Further I say not.

*Peer Mahomed Mistree.*

Taken and sworn, the day, month and year herein first written, before me,

*E. E. Elliot,*

Justice of the Peace.

— No 12. —

No. 12.  
Minute of the  
Governor of Bom-  
bay, 14 August  
1837.

MINUTE by the Governor of Bombay, subscribed by the Commander-in-Chief.

14 August 1837.

THE shameful outrage which has been committed by the authorities at Aden on the persons and property of individuals sailing under the British flag, and entitled to British protection, calls for prompt notice and effectual redress.

These papers should be immediately forwarded to the Government of India, and should we not be enabled to obtain ample satisfaction otherwise, we should request authority to enforce our demand.

The conduct of the Company's agent at Mocha appears by the depositions, and by the statement of Captain Haines, to have been exceedingly disgraceful; he should be dismissed from his employment under Government.

*R. Grant.*



## — No. 13. —

MINUTE by Mr. Farish.

22 August 1837.

No. 13.  
Minute by Mr.  
Farish, 22 August  
1837.

I CONCUR with the Governor's Minute of the 14th, except with regard to the dismissal of the Company's agent at Mocha.

Captain Haines speaks of his having given very insufficient information in reply to his inquiry; and the statement he hands up, speaks that the agent did not assist the nakhooda and crew, as undoubtedly he should have done, and for this he is very blameable; for, unless he has had experience to the contrary, he might have relied on Government reimbursing him the amount of any reasonable assistance for the support of the crew of a vessel, under British colours, in such distress as they are represented to have been.

It might be received as some mitigation of the want of hospitality which he was called on to exercise, without knowing how far he could be reimbursed, when considered as a ground for his dismissal, that he had recently suffered a heavy reduction of his salary, and may have been placed in pecuniary difficulties thereby.

It is also not clear that they had not first placed themselves in other hands. The nakhooda states that he was brought to the agent at Mocha by the late acting agent. I rather think there is no great cordiality between the late acting agent, and the agent himself; and however I might suppose the circumstance deposed to by Syed Nouradeen, that he demanded 2,000 rs. for his services, to be quite within probability, I should expect it to be supported by other proofs before taking it as sufficient grounds for his dismissal.

The foundation for this allegation may also be quite capable of a *bonâ fide* explanation, on the score of eventual security from loss, without involving criminality as an attempt at extortion.

I have always understood Sheik Syed, the Mocha agent, to be a man who has for a long period borne a very respectable character; and as such, I think the truth of Syed Tippoo's deposition that the agent made a disgraceful proposal to his wife, in the highest degree improbable.

The agent himself in his letter speaks of having been sick; he also refers to the nakhooda having "an adviser," which may be understood to be an adviser at enmity with himself.

I think, therefore, with the greatest possible deference to the Governor, that, all these circumstances considered, before the extreme step of dismissal be adopted, some further proof of express criminality is requisite. Those parts of the depositions which charge the Mocha agent with the crimes above-mentioned, and the account given in the depositions, of the whole of his conduct to the crew, might perhaps be referred to Captain Haines, and Captain Rogers, for their opinion, from a knowledge of many of the circumstances while on the spot, as to how much of the representations against the agent at Mocha may be received as truth; or if some other course of inquiry suggests itself to the Governor, it would be well to follow it.

J. Farish.

## — No. 14. —

MINUTE by the Governor of Bombay, concurred in by the Board.

4 September 1837.

No. 14.  
Minute by the  
Governor of  
Bombay,  
4 Sept. 1837.

I AGREE to Mr. Farish's proposal that a more complete investigation should be instituted into the conduct of the agent at Mocha; and the Superintendent of the Indian Navy should be directed to have this done by the senior officer in the Red Sea.

No time should now be lost in forwarding our request to the Government of India, that authority should be given for enforcing our claim of redress on the Sultan of Aden.

R. Grant.



No. 15.

The Secretary to  
the Bombay  
Government to the  
Secretary to the  
Government of  
India,  
15 Sept. 1837.

— No. 15. —

The Secretary to the Bombay Government, to the Secretary to the Governor-General of India in Council.

(Extract.)

Bombay Castle, 15 September 1837.

I AM directed by the Governor in Council to transmit to you, for the purpose of being laid before the Governor-general of India in Council, copies of the documents enumerated in the annexed list, relative to the loss of a ship named the Doria Dowlut, which sailed under English colours, and was wrecked near the port of Aden, where she was plundered, and the crew and passengers maltreated by the Sultan of that place.

In forwarding the above documents, the Governor in Council instructs me to observe, that the shameful outrage that has been committed by the authorities at Aden, on the persons and property of individuals sailing under the British flag, and entitled to British protection, calls for prompt notice and effectual redress. The Governor in Council would therefore respectfully beg to suggest, that should ample satisfaction not be obtained from the Sultan of Aden, this Government be authorized to enforce a demand for redress.

No. 16.

Minute by the  
Governor of  
Bombay,  
23 Sept. 1837.

— No. 16. —

MINUTE by the Governor of Bombay.

(Extract.)

23 September 1837.

THE establishment of a monthly communication by steam with the Red Sea, and the formation of a flotilla of armed steamers, renders it absolutely necessary that we should have a station of our own on the coast of Arabia, as we have in the Persian Gulf; and the insult which has been offered to the British flag by the Sultan of Aden, has led me to inquiries which leave no doubt on my mind that we should take possession of the port of Aden.

I shall make a short summary of the advantages which Aden offers as a depôt for coals, and as a naval and commercial station.

Cape Aden is a high rocky promontory, almost an island, the communication with the main being only by a narrow strip of land, which is nearly covered at high-water spring-tides, and which a single work and a few men could maintain against any attack. The village of Aden is situated on the eastern shore, and is surrounded by an amphitheatre of lofty mountains, open to attack from the sea at only one spot, on which a small fort might be required. Opposite to, and commanding, the town of Aden is an island, 1,200 yards long by 700 broad, and 400 feet high, upon which barracks could be built for a detachment of troops. The remains of a tank are still visible; and on the northern part, where boats unload, a pier was formerly run out, on which was a battery for five or six guns, now in ruins. The water of Aden is good, and the climate healthy.

The harbour of Aden is excellent, and ruins of great extent prove that it was once a mart of great importance. It might again, under good management, be made the port of export for coffee, gums and spices of Arabia, and the channel through which the produce of England and India might be spread through the rich provinces of Yemen and Hadhar-el-mout. The trade with the African coast would also be thrown into the Aden market.

As a coal depôt, no place on the coast is so advantageous; it divides the distance between Bombay and Suez, and steamers may run into Back Bay during the night, and load and unload at all seasons in perfect security.

Should the Board adopt my views, I propose that this Minute should be forwarded by the Atalanta to the Secret Committee, and that we request permission to take possession of Cape Aden. A copy should be forwarded to the Government of India, and our hope expressed that, in consideration of the danger of delay, the Governor-general in Council will authorize us to carry our plan into immediate effect.



## — No. 17. —

MINUTE by Mr. *Farish*.

(Extract.)

25 Septemoer 1837.

THE taking possession of Cape Aden, which the Governor has brought forward for consideration, is an important question; but, upon the best consideration I have been able to give to the subject, it appears to be justifiable. The outrage lately committed by the Sultan on a vessel bearing the British flag, is a ground for proceeding against him, and, taken with that of Wader, it is the second recent instance of these Arab tribes attacking and plundering vessels bearing the British flag. Some such measure as this seems necessary, to show them that acts of hostility like these will not be permitted with impunity, or they will be carried to much greater lengths, and more extensive measures be called for to put them down; and it may then be impossible to combine with them the benefit of steam navigation, by obtaining possession of a safe and commercial depôt for coal, which Aden is.

No. 17.  
Minute by Mr.  
*Farish*, 25 Sept.  
1837.

## — No. 18. —

The Bombay Government to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company.

(Extract.)

Bombay Castle, 26 September 1837.

IN forwarding the above Minutes, we respectfully solicit the instructions of your Committee to be permitted to take possession of Cape Aden, for the purpose suggested by our President.

No. 18.  
The Bombay Government to the Secret Committee, 26 Sept. 1837.

## — No. 19. —

The Secretary to the Governor-General of India in Council to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

(Extract.)

Fort William, 16 October 1837.

I AM directed by the Governor-general of India in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters dated the 15th and 27th ult., the former forwarding copies of documents relative to the loss of a ship named the *Doria Dowlut*, which sailed under English colours, and was wrecked near the port of Aden, where she was plundered, and the crew and passengers maltreated by the Sultan of that place, and suggesting the proceedings to be adopted in consequence.

His Lordship in Council is of opinion, that satisfaction should, in the first instance, be demanded of the Sultan of Aden for this outrage. If it be granted, some amicable arrangement may be made with him for the occupation of this port as a depôt for coals, and harbour for shelter. If it be refused, the further measures may be considered; and in the meantime information may be collected of the political state of Aden and the neighbouring countries.

No. 19.  
The Secretary to the Government of India to the Secretary to the Bombay Government, 16 October 1837.

## — No. 20. —

The Secretary to the Bombay Government to the Superintendent of the Indian Navy.

Sir,

Bombay Castle, 25 November 1837.

WITH reference to Mr. Wathen's letter, dated the 5th September last, relative to the plunder of the *Doria Dowlut*, and the maltreatment of her crew and passengers by the Sultan of Aden, I am directed by the Governor in Council, to request that you will issue immediate instructions to Commander Haines, of the Indian Navy, to hold himself in readiness to proceed to Aden, by the steamer *Berenice*, for the purpose of making a formal demand on the Sultan of that place for redress for the outrages committed on the occasion above alluded to, and the restoration of the cargo, or its value.

In the event of this just demand not being complied with by the Sultan,

No. 20.  
The Secretary to the Bombay Government to the Superintendent of the Indian Navy, 25 Nov. 1837.



Commander Haines should return to the Presidency by the *Berenice* steamer, on her return voyage.

You are, however, requested to direct that officer to use his utmost endeavours to effect an amicable adjustment of this demand.

The Governor in Council is further pleased to direct, that Commander Haines be instructed to be careful not to lose sight (during his negotiation with the Sultan), of the desirable object of obtaining consent to our establishing a coal depôt at Aden.

Commander Haines should prefer a contingent bill for such expenses as he may incur whilst employed on this duty.

A letter from this Government to the address of the Sultan, apprising him of the object of Commander Haines's mission, will (as soon as ready), be forwarded to you for the purpose of being delivered by that officer.

I have, &c.

*J. P. Willoughby.*

No. 21.

Captain Haines to  
the Superintendent  
of the Indian Navy,  
20 January 1838.

— No. 21. —

Captain *Haines* to the Superintendent of the Indian Navy.

Sir,

20 January 1838.

HAVING completed the first duty upon which I was sent, I sent over the presents from Government to the Sultan, dividing them so that each of his sons should receive one. He, in return, sent me some bullocks and sheep; the former I gave over to the sloop *Coote*, the latter to my followers, and Bedouins.

I deemed also that it would enhance the British character in the estimation of the people, if I made a present to Sheik Zair ben Aloose Hydroosse (their patron saint), for his kind and charitable conduct towards the females who were passengers in the British ship when wrecked, for he saved them from brutal treatment, clothed them when naked, and fed them when the poor creatures were starving. I therefore wrote him a very kind and complimentary letter, expressing my regret at having nothing in my possession to make him an adequate return for his kindness, but sent him 50 dollars, which would enable him to act in a similar kind manner to any other unfortunate people who might afterwards require an act of charity at his hands; and I further thanked him, in the name of the British Government, for having exerted himself so providentially towards their subjects.

Having received the Sultan's letter in answer to the receipt of the presents, I forwarded my letter. This letter they took a long time to deliberate upon; the Sultan, his son Hamed, with their advisers, sitting up all night, with doors closed.

In my letter, it will be observed, that I have drawn the line of British ground as far north as Khore Muksa; I did so in consideration of its being a good division; and the same being in our possession, might, at some future day, be turned to good account, by a canal being made right across the isthmus, thus isolating Aden, and facilitating the communication from one bay to the other. The harbours, bays, and islands, I was also particular in mentioning, to prevent a future quibble.

On the 12th, about three P. M., I received the short answer from the Sultan, and a request that all should be secret. He trusted the whole to six merchants, who soon dispersed it throughout the town. Sultan Hamed (the heir apparent), paid me two visits, asking me many questions regarding his future prospects if the place was made over to us, and seemed greatly afraid of our forgetting afterwards who he was, and treating him with contempt.

On the evening of the 13th I paid them a visit, and had a long conversation on the subject; at eight P. M. he sent over to say that he was coming to me, and at nine P. M. he came, with his sons, and Reshid ben Abdulla (the principal merchant in Aden); we were closeted together till past midnight.

The subject of our conversation that evening was conclusive, and what passed principally as follows: They at first entertained the idea that indignity and abuse would follow them out of the town, if our flag was flying; this I soon erased. At last he said, would the English receive him as an ally, and protect his country from being molested; in fact, receive him and country on the same terms the Nawab of Surat (the only one he knew) had received, if he gave us Aden.



Aden. In reply, I informed him, that I was not authorized to give a decisive answer on so important a point; but I would state his wish to Government; and as he promised us Aden, merely requiring a short time to arrange the transfer with the chiefs of the tribe, it was arranged between us, that he should write and explain everything to Sir Robert Grant, and until his decision of the same was known, I was to choose any spot I thought proper as a coal depôt, and he would transfer it to the British under his seal.

Just as he was on the point of going away, he said, "Now I have promised everything you wish, do what I require, which is, let me have six guns, some shot and powder out of the ship, for my truce with the Fethelees has terminated." In reply, I expressed my regret at his having asked for a thing out of my power to comply with; the ship was commanded by Captain Denton, who himself had not the power to reduce the armament of the vessel under his command without express permission from superior authority. He then said, "Will you ask the Government to send me some quickly?" I told him that he had better write himself.

He promised to state to the Governor the sum he would require for the transfer, and that he would immediately proceed inland, and arrange it with the chiefs, and that all should be ready by the 15th of March; that the Government were to send with me (or any other officer they deem proper), troops, guns, and every necessary to take possession. This, I told him, I thought Government would not undertake until the final arrangements were made; he said, then he would go inland, and write to me. I further pointed out that I chose Ras Ben Jarbayan (or Sheik Hamed), as the spot for our coal depôt, and that I would point it out to the Dowlah before quitting, so that should any coal arrive, he would know where to place it.

Thus ended the evening arrangements; and the next day I received the enclosed letter to the Governor, and the transfer of any point of land I thought proper to pick out as a coal depôt, which I have also the honour to forward.

On the 15th of January, in the morning, he sent me word he was going, when I immediately, out of respect, proposed that I, Lieutenant Swan, and Mr. Hamilton, officers of the Coote, should accompany himself and family to the northern gate, which we did on horseback, and at which civility he appeared highly pleased.

Prior to the Sultan quitting Aden, he solicited my watch (a silver hunter, by M'Cabe) for himself, and another common watch for his son, Hamed, both of which I gave them, having purchased the latter for 25 dollars; even the surgeon of the Coote's sword, which was new, he earnestly entreated me to give him, and at my request Dr. Arbuckle kindly gave me it for another in Bombay, and I presented it to him. I therefore request the permission of Government to obtain both a similar watch and sword.

I have also the honour to forward translations of all letters which have passed, with a copy of a rough Treaty I drew up to convince him we intended no oppression, and that himself and family would always be treated and received with the respect due to their rank. All articles that would be necessary are not therein written; what I now forward being merely hastily written to give them satisfaction, from my knowledge of their character and wishes.

What the Sultan wished to be kept a secret, soon became known; and from the feeling I have seen evinced in the town after his departure, I feel confident in asserting that the British flag in Aden would be received as a boon conferred upon its present oppressed inhabitants.

After the Sultan left Aden, I remained several days to personally inspect every pass leading into it, as well as the remaining fortifications and resources, so that I might by personal observation be better able to give an idea of what will be necessary. My remarks on the same will be found among my other papers addressed to you in the Naval Department.

In conclusion, I have only to hope my arrangements thus far, in the performance of the duty upon which I was sent, may meet approval.

I have, &c.

S. B. Haines.



No. 22.  
The Sultan of  
Aden to Captain  
Haines,  
11 January 1838.

— No. 22. —

The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

After the usual compliments.

11 January 1838.

YOUR letter and presents by Moollah Jaffer reached me. We look not to things, but that you will be kind to us, and that our hearts may be for ever glad. If a difference or quarrel ever exist, we will take it up in unison: our friendship is now trivial, but, please God, it will be much greater; we will have friendship for ever; we will meet, and whatever may be in your heart you can explain all to me, and I will reply.

If you now have anything further to say, I will remain to conclude it, for my children are anxious to return to Lahedge, and I will therefore detain them, so that we may speak and settle it. You have asserted we are old friends, and I now say it is truth; I wish to see it is truth; I wish to see if you have any treaty with Hamed Abdul Kurrem; and I will not go until we have met, and see what friendship you have, and I will return it. If God pleases, my friendship shall be the same as my father's, and a treaty shall be witness. What you say I will listen to, and have no fear on my heart. We and the English are one.

With numerous salaams.

(Signed by the Sultan.)

— No. 23. —

No. 23.  
Captain Haines to  
the Sultan of Aden.

Captain *Haines* to the Sultan of Aden.

(A. C.)

11 January 1838.

OUR hearts are now at rest; satisfaction has been given by you, on the demand of the British, for the insult offered by your tribe, and our friendship is as before.

Your having acceded to the terms required, convinces me you are anxious to be our friends, and to keep up the feeling which existed to our mutual benefit in your father's time. In consequence, I am empowered by Government to form a Treaty with you for the purchase of Aden, or Adden, the land and points surrounding it, and the low connecting part as far north as Khore Muksa, with the harbours of Gubet Toowye, Bunder Serah, Bunder Duras, and smaller bays, with Seerah Island, and all islands within the same.

You in your wisdom will readily foresee the advantages that will accrue to your country by having such an intimate and connecting link with the British.

You must also be well aware, that if the British flag were flying, it would be a security to your dominions by sea, and that your riches would accumulate by the increased trade at your interior towns, owing to the security given to the export trade by the British being in possession of Aden.

At present to you it is of no value; it is annually dwindling into greater insignificance, and will, perhaps, shortly be an object merely to excite the ambition of some minor power. Aden would then be an annoyance to you, instead of being an exterior defence for your interior fertile plains and towns.

If you are agreeable to enter into a treaty with the Government, for the transfer of the land, previously mentioned, to the British, I have a rough one drawn up for your examination; it is written in Arabic, with a space left for your assent, or dissent, or any remark; and I should feel obliged by your mentioning the sum you would part with it for to the East India Company.

On taking possession, you will observe, on perusing the articles of the Treaty, that yourself and family are independent, though in alliance with us, and that you will be treated with all honours and respect as such; that you will be free to reside in Aden, and to retain possession of two large houses you now have; and that we in our harbours will afford your trading vessels protection, and permission to wear the British flag.

I shall remain here for many days, so that on so important a subject you will have full time to deliberate, and to obtain the advice of aged and sensible men, who have seen the world; and during such deliberations, I shall feel happy to afford them explanation or information on any subject.

In



In my own mind I feel assured you will not let so advantageous an offer from the British Government (which so clearly and so conspicuously tends to the future welfare of your family and state) pass. I conclude with merely requesting a knowledge of the sum you will require for the transfer mentioned; and with flattering compliments,

I am, &c.

S. B. Haines.

— No. 24. —

The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

12 January 1838.

WITH numerous compliments to my dearest friend Captain Haines. Your friendly letter I received. The language you wrote was intelligent, and true indeed. We and the British are friends of a very old day; what they wish, I am happy for. You have given me this information, but let it be private between us. Any feelings of your's explain, and I will do the same; do so in my presence for the Government sake, for you are as one. Do as the British did for my father; so do for me; and between me and the Company; and for us, if God pleases, we shall arrange it between us. I will not give you two explanations; speak to me, and I will to you; with blessings, &c.,

(The signature of the Sultan.)

— No. 25. —

DRAFT of a Treaty with the Sultan of Aden.

No. 25.  
Draft of a Treaty  
with the Sultan  
of Aden.

THE Right honourable the Governor of Bombay being desirous of obtaining the Port of Aden, principally as a coal depôt, and having been sent on a mission by such authority, I take upon myself to draw up the following arrangements, which, being agreed on by myself on the part of the British, and Sultan Mahomed Houssain ben Fudthel ben Abdul Kurrem, chief of the Abdalees, is to be finally subject to the ratification of the Right honourable the Governor in Council of Bombay, or the Supreme Government of India.

It being the policy and interest of both States to have a treaty of friendship existing between them, we mutually agree to the following articles.

Art. 1. That on the payment of                      dollars, the land of Aden, as far north as Khore Muksa, including the mountains, capes, every part indeed of the land generally called the Cape, with the harbours of the same named Gubet Toowye, Bunder Serah, Bunder Duras, and the islands within the same, as well as Seerah Island, and all fortifications thereon, with whatever public buildings, gates or ruins on the same, to be for ever the property of the East India Company.

Art. 2. That on taking possession of Aden, the British promise not to injure any mosque, or place of Mahometan worship, nor will they prevent the ceremonies of that or other religion from proceeding. Every man subject to the British shall have British law to protect him, whatever be his faith.

Art. 3. The British guarantee a full and free exercise of the Mahometan religion to all disposed to believe in that faith.

Art. 4. The mosque of Sheik Hydroosse, and other mosques now in use, not to be demolished; and their priests to be permitted to exercise the functions of their religion as heretofore.

Art. 5. Every encouragement shall be given to increase the population, also the import and export trade, on the part of the British, the Sultan on his part engaging to render all the assistance in his power to facilitate the commerce of the interior; and for the first twelve months neither power is to levy heavy duties, so as to give encouragement to the merchants; and after that period, the duties will be regulated by the respective powers.

Art. 6. The Sultan and his family, with his tribe, to be considered as friends, and treated with the respect due to their rank in society. Either the Sultan or



his family may, if they wish it, reside in Aden, and have the honours of a prince paid them. In return, British officers or merchants to be permitted to have free access, and to reside at Lahighe (or Lahedge), if they wish it, subject to the laws of the same, but under British protection.

Art. 7. The vessels belonging to the Sultan to be allowed to trade free of all duties; but should the cargo be the property of his subjects, or other people, all duties to be paid thereon. His vessels are to be respected and protected by British power and influence, and to be permitted to wear British colours, as belonging to the British port of Aden.

Art. 8. In case a British soldier or other subject should desert from Aden for misdemeanor, or any cause whatever, and retreat to the dominions of the Sultan, he is to be delivered over to British law-officers (or other authorized persons), upon requiring him, the British engaging to do the same act of justice for the Sultan.

Art. 9. The Sultan will grant a small piece of ground near Lahedge for the interment of any British subjects who may die there, and will prevent the interment being molested.

Art. 10. To prevent mistakes, every British subject wishing (for the convenience and purposes of trade, or change of climate, or any cause whatever) to visit or remain at Lahedge, shall be supplied with a passport from the authorities at Aden; the same privilege to be granted to the subjects of the Sultan of Lahedge, and the same arrangement attended to on his part.

Art. 11. That it shall be considered lawful and free, both to the subjects of the Sultan as well as the British, to make over their property to another without control, either in health or sickness; and in case of sudden death, without a will, the just and lawful debts, from one subject to the other, to be punctually paid, as far as the same can be liquidated by the goods, chattels, or any property whatever belonging to the deceased; the respective Powers to enforce the same, if the debts are clearly proved.

Art. 12. Neither the British or Sultan's subjects to be subject to any indignities, but of course to be amenable to the laws of the place they are residing in; but if a disturbance of a serious nature arise, a reference to each other always to be made.

Art. 13. The Sultan binds himself, heirs and successors, to give every assistance in recovering debts due from his subjects to the British, and the British are likewise bound to do the same for the subjects of the Sultan.

Art. 14. The British will guarantee to the present subjects of the Sultan the full and undisturbed possession of any household or other property they may possess situated on the headland of Aden, now, or about to be, transferred to the British; and should the Government require any part of the same, or the position in which they are placed, for public purposes, a remuneration for their removal or destruction to be given.

Art. 15. The building at the passes leading into Aden, as well as all other buildings of the Sultan's, with the exception of his dwelling-houses, are to belong to the British.

Art. 16. The guns now in Aden are to be the property of the Sultan of Lahedge, and are to be taken thence whenever he pleases.

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— No. 26. —

No. 26.  
The Sultan of  
Aden to Captain  
Haines.

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The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

13 January 1838.

AFTER kind compliments. A messenger from the Yaffaars has come to inform me, his tribe commenced war on the 12th January with the Futhlees, who are collecting their strength to meet 3,000 Yaffaars. We are required to arrange our interior affairs, and for that purpose I wish to leave; and, with my children and followers, will do so on Monday. The day of peace is past, and they came to me



me for powder and shot. I require some powder, shot, and cannon from you, for our affairs are now arranged; the town and harbours are yours. We go. Afterwards do as you like, and go when you like. I leave on Monday, and the letter to the Governor of Bombay I send for you by Jaffer.

(Signed by the Sultan.)

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— No. 27. —

Captain *Haines* to the Superintendent of the Indian Navy.

(Extract.)

Mocha Roads, 3 February 1838.

IN continuing my report of proceedings regarding the transfer of Aden to the British, I have the honour to inform you, that on the 19th January, after the Sultan and family had arrived at Lahedge (his capital), I received the complimentary letter inclosed, to which I returned an answer.

On the 21st January I received the Sultan's letter, also a visit from Reshid ben Abdulla, (whom he had named as his agent in transacting all affairs between us,) who informed me, that he had received a letter from the Sultan, which he gave me to peruse. It required from me a letter to the Sultan of Shugra to prevent his injuring him, or molesting him. In reply, I told Reshid I would send a letter by the interpreter to the Sultan, and that he had better accompany him in about an hour. At two, P.M., I dispatched them with my letter, with particular instructions for their guidance.

My reason for again attempting to obtain a decisive answer, agreeable to what I felt assured the Government would require, was, that I well knew the wish he had mentioned of holding council with his Sheiks was false; and I was, from a good source, made acquainted that the contents of the letter to Sir Robert Grant were principally on the subject of the recovered property, and the severe amends I had determined on receiving, and had received, for their conduct; and that he had given no decided answer therein (agreeable to his promise to me) as to the transfer of Aden. The instructions I gave the interpreter in consequence, were to keep him to one point; that I wanted his seal for the transfer, and the sum he would require for the same. I was so far successful by this arrangement, that the interpreter returned to me with the transfer, but he could not obtain from him the sum he expected, saying he would rather Government decided the sum; the interpreter, however, pushed the point, and at last he proposed 50,000 dollars annually, a sum he said he got by the custom duties of Aden; this he was informed I knew better, for I had the sums received for some years by me, and even for the last year. On this he did not wish me to arrange, considering I knew more about his affairs than was just now agreeable.

In answer to the letter which he, on the 22d, dictated to the interpreter to write, I wrote a letter which made him angry, and he wrote a very angry letter to his agent, who came begging to me not to say anything about him. In answer, I received, without a moment's delay, the letter to which I returned a quiet answer, with which I dispatched Reshid ben Abdulla on the 26th January.

Prior to Reshid's proceeding on this duty, I explained to him the only thing now required was the amount they expected; that it was folly to attempt to deceive me about their revenues, and as to 50,000 dollars annually, it was ridiculous; but that as they received between 6,000 and 7,000 dollars annually, the Government would probably give them a trifle more; also that I wanted rather to know what amount they would take at once as an equivalent. On his quitting, I returned to the sloop of war Coote, preparatory to leaving for Mocha, agreeably to your instructions.

On the same day I visited, with the Dowlah of Aden, the point I considered best adapted for a coal depôt, and explained to him the situation the coals were to be placed in, should any arrive, until the Government should have decided upon the spot I preferred; the cause of which preference will be shown in my remarks forwarded with my letters in the Naval Department.

On the 26th, at 8 P.M., Reshid ben Abdulla came on board, bringing me the short letter written by Sultan Hamed in his father's name, and informed me

No. 27.

Captain Haines to  
the Superintendent  
of the Indian  
Navy.



that all was concluded, and hands taken upon the agreement being settled. The sum was *in toto* to be 8,700 dollars annually, and their reason for not accepting a sum at once was most sensible. They said if a large sum was at once given and received, it would excite the avarice of their neighbours; but an annual stipend would ensure them always a home in Aden under our protection, and a sufficient support to them, whatever injury might be done to their interior possessions. He also informed me that Sultan Hamed, Syed M. Houssain, and Hajee M. Hous-sain, (a rich merchant of Hadhar-el-mout, and long resident at Lahedge,) were coming down as witnesses, and to wish me farewell; and that Syed M. Houssain had said that he anticipated receiving a few hundred dollars for the trouble he had taken, as a present. He left at 9 P.M., and I gave him directions to send horses for me at daylight.

On the 27th, at 10 A.M., no horses having arrived, I dispatched the interpreter to town to see the reason of such delay. At sunset the Mocha man I had in pay, returned from the interpreter, informing me that Sultan Hamed and Syed M. Houssain had only just arrived, with about 100 Bedouins, and that he would send horses for me at daylight. On Sunday, the 28th, at 8<sup>h</sup> 30<sup>m</sup>, I left in the Coote's pinnace, accompanied by Lieutenant Swan and Mr. Hamilton, who kindly volunteered to accompany me as witnesses to the conclusion of the transfer arrangement. Having reached more than half way to the Pass, we observed the interpreter with spare horses, who immediately called out to come in, and not pull up.

On landing, my surprise will be readily imagined to hear that most determined treachery was intended. Scarcely had I been informed of the same, and had given orders to return to the boat, when a Bedouin, who followed the interpreter as a spy, set off for the town full speed on his camel, with the information of my return to the ship.

The intended treachery was as follows. After Reshid ben Abdulla had left Lahedge with the agreement for 8,700 dollars, Syed M. Houssain and the Sultan's son, Hamed, departed soon after, but would not bring the merchant previously alluded to with them; and instead of coming from Lahedge direct, waited at a village where a sheik resides who had married Sultan Hamed's sister, the whole having sworn to make me a prisoner, and to obtain by force every paper I had received from the commencement of my mission. They further arranged that only 100 men should accompany them into Aden, and that 150 should be ready at Sheik Othman, in case the ships should attempt to recover me. After such a well-arranged plan, it is the greatest mercy that I escaped.

For our fortunate escape, we have to feel grateful to the merchant, Hajee M. Houssain, who was determined to save us; also to Reshid ben Abdulla, for his integrity; and to the interpreter, Moollah Jaffer, for his firmness, decision and good sense, as will be hereafter shown.

On Hamed's arrival at the Sultan's house in Aden, the plan of seizure was soon arranged, and Damjee, the agent over the property that I had recovered, told the interpreter, that all was not right, and that he had better not come outside Reshid's house that night: a guard of six Bedouins was placed over him. At midnight, Reshid received a few laconic words from the merchant, Hajee M. Hous-sain, at Lahedge. They were brought by a Bedouin under the oath of secrecy, and, prior to delivery, Reshid had to swear the contents should only be revealed to us. He gave it to the interpreter for perusal, and it was to this effect. "Take warning, beware, and prevent the English gentlemen from meeting the Syed and Hamed, who have sworn on the Koran to take their chief prisoner, and to force back all his papers; they may not be satisfied with detention, for he is firm, and they are dogs. For our character, prevent it." Another messenger also informed on oath to the same effect; and a Bedouin, who had received payment from me while in Aden for showing me the passes, carrying messages, &c., and actually a follower of the young Sultan, sent word secretly, by my Mocha follower, that I must on no account come up, for they would murder me: he had overheard their intentions.

The interpreter's dread of my thoughtlessly and fearlessly coming up with some of the officers of the Coote to Aden early, made him prompt and alert to save us from being made prisoners, if not to save our lives; he therefore advised



vised Reshid to get him out of the town with the horses, telling them that I should not come until he returned. He, at the same time, ordered the house to be prepared, carpets spread, and water brought ready for my arrival; he not even noticing the restraint he was under by the six men following him every movement he made. This lulled all suspicion, and the Syed and Hamed thought certain of me, and permitted the interpreter to quit with spare horses, which he bargained and paid for, and they quietly waited my arrival.

Their disappointment can be readily conceived, and Reshid received their curses and abuse. I was determined I would not immediately make them acquainted that I was aware of their intentions, but first ask them to visit me on board, to see if they would attempt such a thing after their villainous intentions. For this purpose I wrote, on my return to the ship, to the Sultan Hamed.

What might have been the termination of their infamous intentions, had they attempted to carry them into effect, it is impossible to say; for if an attempt to capture us had been made by force, we might have used our weapons, and I was well armed, having two loaded pistols in my belt; therefore the probability is, we should have fallen by their overpowering us. Still so doubtful is the link that binds the Bedouins to Syed M. Houssain, had I been fortunate enough to have shot him and Hamed, and cut our way down stairs, many of his own men would have hesitated following his vile intention. The odds, however, would have been greatly against our escaping with life.

On the evening of the same day I received from the Sultan a letter to which I returned an answer, and about one P.M., on the 28th, I received another, to which I returned an answer, making him acquainted I was fully aware of his infamous designs.

The instigator and principal person in this infamous transaction, which was treachery and rebellion (of him against his father), was, I have no doubt, Syed M. Houssain, a man whom none of his tribe respect, a cunning, crafty being, devoid of honour, honesty, or integrity, and one who would be delighted to see the Sultan's family ruined, so long as it was advantageous to his own ambitious designs, which are to have supreme command over the whole territory. Unfortunately the father is a weak, imbecile, avaricious man, and Hamed, the elder son, a young ignorant Bedouin, and both are easily swayed by their intriguing relative.

Enforcing the restitution of the property of the Doria Dowlut, and their grant of the promissory note for the remaining 4,000 dollars, they have felt severely; and I rather think it was that paper they wished to get into their hands, imagining that, by the time the payment was due, their father would be in his grave, and they would be called upon to meet the demand.

The letter conferring Aden to the British, I herewith inclose, with the translation of it, as well as all correspondence on the subject.

Should the Governor in Council deem it necessary, after such an insult, to enforce the delivery of Aden, and to do so by reasoning with these wild and ignorant Bedouins, I take the liberty of pointing out that, for 8,700 dollars annually, the whole would be granted; but at the same time it would be necessary that a force be sent with any officer appointed to undertake the final arrangement; so that if he finds the wishes and interest of the father thwarted by the children, he may point out to them that his orders are to take it for the insult offered; and that he should not trust himself or others in their hands. I further conceive, that if the same were necessary, it might be successfully done, without great loss, by the men who would afterwards garrison it, assisted by the crews of two or three Government vessels, and a couple of gun-boats, which would be afterwards useful as coal-boats. With a night attack the place might be in our possession in one hour, more particularly if the same were planned at a distance, so as to give them no warning on the approach of the shipping; and I further take the liberty of suggesting, that the poor inhabitants should not be injured, for they would be delighted to see the British flag planted, and have in no way thrown any impediment to my obtaining the wish of Government.

I further most respectfully beg to point out that, in the arrangements of the transfer of Aden, I have had a difficult task to accomplish. Aden is in every respect



the finest harbour in Arabia, and is one which, from its geographical position, must eventually become the grand emporium of trade; for in either monsoon ingress and egress are not difficult, like the Red Sea; and it must also be the emporium for the trade from the African coast. Vessels from Burburra, with coffee, frankincense, gums, elephants' teeth, hides, &c., can reach Aden in a day in the north-east monsoon, and return again in another. It is as near the coffee country as Mocha, and as near Sennaa and all the principal towns. It is nearer Hadhar-el-mout, and therefore would afford us an opening for our cottons, piece-goods, silks, chintzes, cutlery, iron, &c.

For the purpose for which the Government now more immediately require Aden, that is, as the principal coal depôt, it is perfection with a trivial expense, while Mocha is not at all adapted for it, which the very detention that now takes place in unloading a coal ship proves; the vessel alluded to has been here 10 days, and as yet they have only been enabled to get 100 tons out of her, owing to constant southerly gales.

Prior to leaving Aden on the evening of the 30th January, the agent Damjee visited me, and I gave him particular directions to arrange, pay, and keep all coal expenses, should any arrive prior to his hearing from Government. I had also sent my letter to Sultan M. Houssain, to be forwarded to him without going through the hands of his son, whose honesty I entertained great doubts of. This letter was principally to make the chief acquainted with the infamous conduct of his children, and to point out to him the time he had still to make reparation for the same; also that, if he had anything to do with it, he should feel the pang of shame it was intended to inflict.

In conclusion, I have only to hope that, though not quite so successful as I wished, the Governor in Council and yourself will consider I used my utmost exertions to accomplish the duty which they were pleased to confide to my direction.

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— No. 28. —

The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

15 January 1838.

AFTER salaams and compliments. You must understand the Aden people have but little intellect, and they may be intrusive or impertinent. What has passed between us keep secret. Let Jaffer and Reshid alone be between us, for they will then evince their feeling for you when I go. I am aware that Hydroosse and Aloose Syeds will go to you, but do not tell them what arrangements I have made; their hearts are burning, but let it be secret; if we have anything further to do we will complete it through Jaffer and Reshid. All the Aden people tell lies, but do not let their falsehoods break our friendship.

With salaams and blessings,

(Sultan's signature.)

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— No. 29. —

The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

Lahedge, 18 January 1838.

AFTER the usual compliments. Everything here is as I wish it. I send you this letter to inform you that my family and self are well, and the country at peace. People came to me and said that the English had gone to the top of Gibul Shum-san; they appear a little angry, and say that the land has been transferred without their knowledge; let what has passed between us be kept secret. I know the English can act faithfully, and it will be better for the present to keep it secret, for untrue words might be brought to annoy us.

No. 28.  
The Sultan of  
Aden to Captain  
Haines, 15 Jan.  
1838.

No. 29.  
The Sultan of  
Aden to Captain  
Haines, 18 Jan.  
1838.



## — No. 30. —

Captain *Haines* to the Sultan of Aden.

19 January 1838.

WITH compliments to yourself and family. Your note reached me, and I understand it, and feel happy to hear that you are well. The report of our going to Shumsan is true. Myself and three other gentlemen visited the hill, and ascended to the summit; with the remains of its ancient road and ruins we were highly gratified.

Have no fear for me; all that has passed will remain with me until the Government have decided upon the matter. Regarding your subjects conversing about the transfer of Aden, I think it better that they should, as it will familiarize them with the reality should it take place.

## No. 30.

Captain Haines to  
the Sultan of Aden,  
19 January 1838.

## — No. 31. —

The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

20 January 1838.

AFTER compliments and salaams. Your letter reached me at Lahedge; you write to me that in a few days you are going to Mocha. I have received a letter from the Sultan of Shugra; he wishes to injure me; you must look to what he does. When you get to Mocha send me the news.

(Signed by the Sultan.)

## No. 31.

The Sultan of  
Aden to Captain  
Haines, 20 January  
1838.

## — No. 32. —

Captain *Haines* to the Sultan of Aden.

21 January 1838.

AFTER compliments and salaams. I received and understood your letter, and shall be happy to write to you from Mocha, but consider what I heard through your friend Reshid a mere threat. You wish that I should write to the Sultan of Shugra; I could do so, but not having received any decisive answer on the subject of transferring Aden to the British, I do not see the necessity, for by your taking 40 or 50 days to decide on the point of transfer, I entertain a doubt as to your final answer, yes or no. Promise me the transfer under your seal, for any sum you may think requisite, and I then can prevent the encroachment of others by writing to them, which will remain in force until the agreement is finally ratified by my Government.

With kind compliments.

## No. 32.

Captain Haines to  
the Sultan of Aden,  
21 January 1838.

## — No. 33. —

The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

22 January 1838.

WITH compliments and salaams. Your letter reached me on the 25th Shawul, by Jaffer; you wrote on the subject of Aden; my support and dependence is upon it. My neighbours from east, north, and west obtain money from me, and my dependence for the same is from Aden.

Between us a conversation passed, and we arranged the final answer for two months, or in Hedy (March). I promised it in two months; and you in the interim go to Bombay and inform your Government, and I will have a council of my chiefs to explain to them. When we have both completed it, and you return in March, you can then make houses or forts, or do what you like; the town will then be yours; but consider the money I have to give my neighbours from it, so that when the town is yours, you must answer them all.

If when you are in the town, people come to fight you, either by sea or land, I am not answerable, you must answer and please all. All this which I have written depends upon you. When the town is yours, give me half the custom duties for food. After your return in March, we will meet and arrange; if you



will not give me half the duties, give me pay, either by the month or year, as you please; but let my name be respected, and my orders extend over my own people, and yours over yours. You return in March and settle it.

If you do not come between these months, and the Turks come and take the whole country by strength from me, or any other people, you must not blame me. In March I look only for you, for no other gentleman, but for you, Commander Haines.

(Seal of the Sultan.)

No. 34.

The Sultan of Aden  
to Captain Haines.

— No. 34. —

The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*, written by Moolla Jaffer, the Interpreter, as dictated by the Sultan.

THIS language has passed 22d of January, from Commander Haines on the part of the East India Company, Queen of England, the Governors of Bengal, Madras and Bombay, and God is witness to it.

You swear by the Bible, the house of the Sultan M. Houssein and his descendants shall be theirs, and that my orders shall extend over my people, and that my houses, and the guns I have in Aden, are to be mine; every other thing to belong to the English. My orders are to be over my people, and the Jews, and the Arabs; and whatever orders I give them they must obey, and my other subjects to be mine, with Lahedge, but Aden to belong to the British.

This language to be for myself and children's children; as for me and the Company, if there is any fighting by sea or land against you, I have nothing to do with it.

Neither myself or descendants are answerable to any one. Aden belongs to the English; they must answer. This is written by Jaffer, for what I wish. Reshid and Hajee M. Houssein are witnesses.

— No. 35. —

No. 35.

Captain Haines to  
the Sultan of Aden,  
24 January 1838.

Captain *Haines* to the Sultan of Aden.

(Extract.)

24 January 1838.

WITH the usual compliments. I received your letter and its accompaniments; the sealed one was clear enough, but the other destroyed its decision.

You say you will transfer Aden to the British, and that we may commence building forts, houses, &c., and do as we think proper; but such an inconsistent course the Government would not carry into effect. They must first have the transfer, and money for the same arranged, and concluded under your seal.

In another part you say the Jews and Arabs must obey you in Aden, when the British flag is flying, and all your ryots; you could not have given this consideration, for it is ridiculous. Permit me to ask you if you have the Jews, Arabs, and Banians as your ryots, who would remain in Aden as the subjects of the British? take these away, and what remains, but a heap of ruins and graves. You cannot have power in Aden; but on our taking possession, all who choose will remain as British subjects, and all who wish to be yours can reside at your territories, otherwise they must, when residing on British ground, be subject and amenable to our laws; we oblige no one under our flag to remain by compulsion, they are free!

This I promise you, that you shall be respected, and that the British will treat you as a prince, and your children the same; your house and guns shall be yours. As my time is now short, I should wish you to at once give me a decided answer as to the amount you require for the extent of territory previously mentioned; if at once, or monthly, or annually. Your idea of receiving half the custom duties, I feel assured, would never be listened to; at present they are trivial, but with us, after a great outlay, may be increased.

I am aware of the duties you have received for the last few years in Aden; the whole would not pay one-fourth our expense on first sending men and necessities on



on taking possession; you cannot therefore imagine the British Government would incur so great an expense without the place being for a certainty theirs.

Should Aden even become a British possession, you will have no occasion to fear our being molested or insulted, for we have both the power and will to obtain ample redress from any power.

In conclusion, I inform you we sail on the 27th, and I much regret you have not given a decisive answer, for my Government could then, at once, have decided without further reference; but at present I imagine they will probably send me singly in March, by which detention references will again be made, and they cannot (admitting all was so concluded as to meet with general approval) carry their wishes into effect, owing to the S. W. monsoon, which in June, July, August and September, renders a passage from India to this a two months' voyage. Consider this, and give, while you have an opportunity, a decided answer; the sum is surely not a very tedious calculation, taking into consideration your town is daily deteriorating in value, and your revenues from Aden for the last year are only 6,000 dollars, which your agent can inform you of. It cannot then require a great length of time, or any very great effort of laborious calculation, to decide what would repay you for an article of little value, particularly when the disposal of the same will increase your revenues at your interior towns.

I am now on the point of quitting your country, and leave it with the most friendly feeling for all, and hope that you will remain on terms of peace and friendship with your neighbours.

Give my kind salaams to all your family, and let me know if I can do anything to oblige either yourself or them, in Bombay.

Your's, &c.

S. B. Haines.

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— No. 36. —

The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

Without Date.

(A. C.)

YOUR letter of the 25th Shawul (23d January 1838), sent through Jaffer, has been received, and in regard to what you wrote respecting Aden, we have to state that we and our tribe be the Sultans who live in the east and west, and the citizens depend for support on Aden.

And I ask of you two months' time, viz. Zilkaud and Zilhuj (January and February). Go ye, Commander Haines, to Bombay, and consult with the Government; we shall also consult with our tribe, and with the principal people.

The way is this, that it shall be incumbent on us, you, and the Honourable Company, to improve the city, defray the expenses of the tribe and the Sultans who are under this jurisdiction, and defend the place against any war at sea or by land; that whatever loss may happen in the city shall be shared equally between us, you, and the Government, and whatever profit may accrue shall likewise be equally divided.

When, on the expiration of the two months, we shall meet together, a monthly or annual stipend may be settled upon us.

We shall exercise authority over our subjects, and you over your own.

If after two months any invasion be attempted by the Turks or other nation, and in case you do not prevent it, the blame would not rest on our shoulders.

And after two months we shall have communication with Commander Haines only.

No. 36.  
The Sultan of Aden  
to Captain Haines.



## — No. 37. —

No. 37.  
The Sultan of Aden  
to Captain Haines,  
23 January 1838.

The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

Compliments.

23 January 1838.

What I now write is from Lahedge, where all are well. Your letter reached me, and I understood all you wrote in that letter. I have finished with you on the subject of the town, and told you all on the day I arranged for two months. You were agreeable; the subject was finished while you were in Aden. Jaffer came to me afterwards, and brought me a letter on our previous conversation. I have finished, but you have not, and now wish for other subjects, which is not correct. Jaffer came to me from you, and required other promises. I have spoken truth, and gave him a letter, and from his hand received another. I have given my seal that Aden is yours, and you must now give me yours as a security to me. You have both my letter and seal; if my letter with the seal does not please you, give it me back, and what I dictated to Jaffer, give to Reshid, who will give it my man, and he will bring it to me at Lahedge. We are one; our friendship is old; we are friends with you and your Government. We have great friendship, and are very old friends, even in Hamed Abdul Kurrem's time, with whom you had a treaty, and I have witness.

If you have no other language, and if my letter will not satisfy you, return it to me; I mean the letter by Jaffer.

(Signature of the Sultan.)

## — No. 38. —

No. 38.  
Captain Haines to  
the Sultan of Aden,  
24 January 1838.

Captain *Haines* to the Sultan of Aden.

24 January 1838.

AFTER numerous good wishes and compliments. I received your letter, and understood its contents, but regret to observe you appeared angry at my letter. Your words in a previous letter to me were, "Let no anger pass between us;" to which I have strictly adhered. Anger should never exist between those who wish to be friendly, and if anything was written by me to give annoyance, had you asked for an explanation, or pointed it out, I should have been happy to have explained, for no words of mine were intended to create it; on a reperusal of my letter, I find nothing to do so; indeed, the contrary; I merely asked a simple question, in consequence of your own remarks, and that the Bombay Government may know your answer; and in another part pointed out that the south-west monsoon would delay the transfer being carried into effect for some time, according to the March arrangement; also, that your wishes regarding the present Jews, Banians, and Arabs in Aden, were inadmissible in a transfer.

What could there be in my letter to create the evident feeling it did? And I regret having to show such a feeling to the British Government for your sake, which I must inform you I am necessitated to do; besides, it is your last, and does not evince that friendship I feel assured you would wish.

I return the letter you so much wished for, merely objecting to the part I have alluded to regarding the Jews, Banians, and Arabs in the town.

In your letter you have directed me not to write to you again; nor should I, only knowing you have not been accustomed to trial with the English, and therefore do not estimate their character in a correct light, I feel natural anxiety to put you in the right path, and for that reason write you this friendly letter, as well as to convince you, that my promise in a previous letter, of executing all our affairs without anger, has been adhered to.

With the kindest compliments to yourself and family,

I remain, &c.

*S. B. Haines.*

## — No. 39. —

No. 39.  
The Sultan of Aden  
to Captain Haines,  
26 January 1838.

The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

Written by Hamed, and dictated by his father, who is very sick.

26 January 1838.

THIS letter from M. Houssain Fudthel to my friend, my very great friend, Commander Haines Sahib, God preserve you!

Your letter reached me, and by Reshid and my son Hamed M. Houssain I send this. If God pleases, all on our side will be properly arranged.



## — No. 40. —

Captain *Haines* to Sultan *Hamed*.

28 January 1838.

No. 40.

Captain *Haines* to  
Sultan *Hamed*.

AFTER usual compliments. I received the letter brought by Reshid, written by yourself in your father's name, and have since learnt from the interpreter, Moolla Jaffer, of your arrival in company with Syed M. Houssain, in Aden. The letter I received was very short, merely informing me you were coming.

If you have the sealed authority from your father to undertake and conclude my only remaining wish, which is the amount required for the transfer, I shall feel obliged by your sending it to me in writing.

Accept my best thanks for your kindness in sending me the horses. I came half way in a boat, when I met them; but, on second thoughts, considered it would be useless my further troubling you with a visit. I returned to the ship, where I remain to await your answer.

With salaams.

## — No. 41. —

Sultan *Hamed*, written by Syed M. Houssain, to Captain *Haines*.

28 January 1838.

No. 41.

Sultan *Hamed* to  
Captain *Haines*,  
28 January 1838.

THERE is only one God. From Sultan *Hamed* ben M. Houssain Fudthel to my great friend, Captain *Haines*. God preserve you with kind salaams. Written in Aden, and all the news is good; as God pleased your letter reached me, and I understand it. We have come to Aden on the part of my father to arrange affairs between us. Hear my words, and we will hear yours without others being present, so that no one may know what we arrange, or be at all acquainted with it. Between us we have a treaty, it is finished; we came here to settle every thing, so that both may be pleased. We are great friends. When you come to Aden it will be good. Come to us in the town. Syed M. Houssain sends his compliments with my salaams.

## — No. 42. —

Captain *Haines* to Sultan *Hamed*.

28 January 1838.

No. 42.

Captain *Haines* to  
Sultan *Hamed*,  
28 January 1838.

WITH compliments. I received your letter and understand it. It will be more convenient, as you wish such secrecy in a public transaction already well known, for you to meet me on board the ship, for we can then converse and arrange matters agreeably to your wish, without the slightest fear of any of your people being made acquainted with its conclusion; the reason however for such secrecy I cannot comprehend, for your father has given the English Aden and its harbours, under his signature and seal for whatever the Government think proper to give, and it is only for your sakes I asked the sum you in your hearts required for the transfer.

It will be a pleasant ride in the cool of the morning, and after the little remaining part of our affairs are settled, you will for the first time in your life be able to see the interior economy of an English ship, which Captain Denton will be happy to point out to you. I have not heard from your father, but reports have reached me of his being severely indisposed; is it so, or not? I trust the latter.

## — No. 43. —

Sultan *Hamed*, written by Syed M. Houssain, to Captain *Haines*.

29 January 1838.

No. 43.

Sultan *Hamed* to  
Captain *Haines*,  
29 January 1838.

There is but one God. To my dear friend Captain *Haines*; God preserve him, with salaams! Your letter reached me, and I understood it. You must understand I wrote to you to direct you to come to me. I wish to converse with you, you and I alone to speak sensibly, secret and proper; you act according to  
268.



my wishes and I will to yours. We are friends and have a treaty between the English and the Sultan of Aden; you and I are one, and we must not doubt each other. If you will not come, our hearts are, that we wish to give you character and respect, it is for that reason; as for Aden, God looks over it, and will over us. If you wish our friendship come to me in Aden; and if you wish to have Aden, the people of Aden are not willing to have you. I would not tell you a falsehood; I always speak truth. No one will go out of their houses until their deaths. What Reshid informs you of is enough.

(Sultan Hamed's signature.)

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— No. 44. —

No. 44.  
Captain Haines to  
Sultan Hamed.

Captain *Haines* to Sultan *Hamed*.

YOUR letter reached me, and I understood it; it was so long before I received it that I did not anticipate an answer, and therefore wrote the accompanying letter, intending to have sent it to-morrow morning; its contents, however, are so *apropos*, that a further remark is not requisite, and I now only wait for the answer alluded to therein.

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— No. 45. —

No. 45.  
Captain Haines to  
Sultan Hamed,  
29 January 1838.

Captain *Haines* to Sultan *Hamed*.

(Extract.)

29 January 1838.

WITH compliments. I am on the point of departure, and in 18 days anticipate reaching Bombay, with the news of all that has transpired between us. How far the same may be agreeable, I leave to your own consciences; for they must sting you to the quick. There is (as you do frequently express) but one God, who sees not only the actions but inward feelings of man. He (though you must have forgotten the laws and tenets of your Koran) knew the intention of your coming from Lahedge, and frustrated them by warning those who have acted with upright feelings of honour and principle towards yourself and family. I can now inform you that I have the minutest information of what passed at Lahedge after Reshid left, which I shall report to my Government, who will act as they consider requisite. Aden, and its harbours, are ours by your father's seal and signature, and therefore, after your bad intentions, the British Government are fully justified in doing towards it as they may deem correct. Refer back to my letters, and consider on the advice I first gave to come straight forward and honestly, and you would never have to repent it. Have I not throughout acted honourably towards you all? and latterly, when all was concluded, I merely for your sake wished to know the demand; the return you intended towards me for such kindness I thank you for, and will leave the Government, whom I come to represent, to consider on a deserving equivalent. They may return good for evil, and in such case it will be to evince to you the true nobleness of the British character.

I would now ask you, what have you gained by intrigue and intended treachery? I have the bond for the transfer of the land and harbours we required, under your father's signature and seal; and what bond have you now from me? Had you acted honourably you would have received papers from me equally binding as the seal of your father for the transfer, and it is now not too late if you send me the sum you arranged for with Reshid, which I know; this will show you that I can forget and forgive.

The transactions of the last few days have done great injury to your house and State in my opinion, for abuse has not been spared while treachery was intended; but the Caffers (the kind epithet given us) have still their friends even among the followers of the Prophet, thousands of whom they govern, and are respected by them for their wisdom, rectitude, and justice, in government devoid of oppression; they have also the power to crush those who abuse them, but having more sense and discretion, merely pity them. I also now pity you for the dilemma you have



have been led into, as well as your father and family. You, no doubt, yesterday, were confident that to-day I should have been your prisoner at Lahedge, when you could have intimidated me; but I trust if I ever have the pleasure of visiting your town it will not be without that with me which will prevent intimidation.

I feel happy for your sake, that in your kind intention towards me you were disappointed, but consider that ere I lost my life others might have lost theirs, for you have never seen me without arms; and as to your intention to capture me, it is most probable that if it had been made it would only have been my lifeless body, which would have been but a sorry reflection for you afterwards, particularly when you considered upon the retribution which would have inevitably followed. Such a wicked and ill-judged intention never entered your imagination before.

I would advise you now to make during the few hours I remain, an ample apology to the Bombay Government for the insult offered to them, by attempting to obtain (by forcibly detaining their representative) documents which were granted by your father in friendship.

I have left Damjee as a government agent over the restored property, and request that you will honour him as such: and that when your father's bugalah burruk arrives, the chain cable now on board of her, belonging to the late English ship, be given in his charge.

I wait till sunset to-morrow, which will afford you the opportunity previously alluded to.

S. B. Haines.

— No. 46. —

Captain *Haines* to the Sultan of Aden.

30 January 1838.

No. 46.

Captain Haines to  
the Sultan of Aden,  
30 January 1838.

WITH compliments. After the friendly manner in which all our affairs had been transacted, judge my surprise at hearing of the intended, though disappointed, treachery of your son Hamed and Syed M. Houssain. If you were accessible or aware of such kind intentions towards me, after your expressions of regard and friendship, I can only regret the want of faith and principle evinced in one whose age should have taught him to have thought only of preparing himself for the grave.

What could have induced your family to have thought of such a disgraceful way of obtaining the papers which have passed between us? Could you have thought for a moment that by capturing me you would have obtained them? Undeceive yourselves: no force could have given them you, not even my death. But why not have asked me for what you wished? We were friends when you asked for the paper by Moolla Jaffer. Did not I return it to you by Reshid ben Abdulla? Then why not have asked me at least for any other? Have I ever used force or deceit? Have I not only in a friendly way pointed out to you the advantages yourself, family, and country, would receive by an intimate friendship with the British? And had you, in the first instance, candidly said that you did not wish to part with the country, it would have been enough; whereas you gave the British the place by seal, and then by treachery your family endeavoured to obtain all the papers that had passed. Not a request have you made to me but it has been attended and listened to with the ears of friendship; and what return has been made for it? What will the British Government think of it? And will not your neighbours even be ashamed of it.

Your son Hamed, with Syed M. Houssain, have been badly advised, and will repent of it. I shall be in Bombay in 18 days; farewell. If you wish to write, send me the letter by a bugalah before two days, for it will then reach me at Mocha.



No. 46.  
The Sultan of Aden  
to the Governor  
of Bombay,  
15 January 1838.

— No. 47. —

The Sultan of Aden to the Governor of Bombay.

(A. C.)

15 January 1838.

YOUR letter, sent under charge of Commander Haines, has been received, and the oral communication made by that officer understood.

With regard to your requisition, that we should restore the property alleged to have been plundered from a vessel wrecked off Aden, or pay its price, in case it might not be recoverable, we have to state, that by the treaty between us and Government, our friends and foes shall be regarded as yours; that we have neither plundered the vessel, nor the cargo on board of her. It often occurs that when a bugalah or other vessel is wrecked in any port belonging to India, or Arabia, the property and lives on board are lost. It has not, hitherto, been recovered from the hakim or chief of the place.

The day on which I received intelligence of the wreck of the vessel, which occurred at a distance from the shore, we, fearing for the safety of the lives on board, dispatched our son thither. The nakhooda, merchants, and Syed Ensof hired, from their own will, boats belonging to the people of Soar and Somal; and entered into an agreement with them, that out of the property saved, a third should be made over to them. A boat was also sent on our part, for the purpose of landing the men on board, who however had landed previously; our son, therefore, returned to Aden.

The nakhooda and Syed Ensof told our son, that such property as might be recovered should be divided into three equal parts, of which one should be given to the owner, another to the proprietors of the boats, and the third to him (our son) if he took care of the property.

Our son replied, that they (nakhooda and Syed Ensof) should themselves look to their vessel and property, and that he had no business to interfere. On this they rejoined, that the offer made by them was from their own free will, and not from any force used. Our son then said, that if such was their wish, they should give him a note, which was accordingly written, and sealed and signed by the son of Syed Ensof, and the nakhooda.

Commander Haines came with the (above) letter, and required us in the name of Government to pay the sum of 12,000 rials (German crowns). We replied, that this would not take place; that the principles of justice should form the basis of one's conduct. He however replied in the negative; when we said, "this note (meaning the one above referred to) is executed by the son of Ensof, who has imprinted his seal too on it, and it also bears the mark of the nakhooda." Commander Haines nevertheless said, that he did not require anything but the sum of 12,000 rials; on this we told him that he should take back the third part of the property given to us, and that on account of our mutchva (boat), and the hired boats; that we would not disobey the orders of Government. He, however, expressed his determination not to receive anything but the 12,000 rials, adding, that he would receive such property from us as might be recovered, and that value of the remainder might be paid.

The nakhoodas of the boats belonging to Soar, and other people, were mediating between us and Commander Haines, who however did not agree (to our proposal). He informed us that the sum of 12,000 rials should be recovered from us, either by pacific or coercive measures.

We said that we were ready to obey the orders of Government, but that he should write to Government, and depute an agent. To this Commander Haines answered, that he himself was the Government.

On this we obeyed the order of Government, and returned whatever property we had, belonging to the vessel, given to us on account of the boats hired, and the third promised to us, amounting in the whole to rials 7,809. When he (the Commander) demanded the residue, we gave him a note of hand for the sum of rials, 4,191, to be paid within one year; we have not gained anything in the affair.

Afterwards we were informed that it is your intention to hoist the British flag in Aden and Toowye, and carry on trade. We then asked in what manner; whether conformably to the practice formerly existing between Sultan Abdool Kurrem



Kurrem and the Honourable Company. He (Commander Haines) replied in the negative; and added, that the land should belong to us, and the ports to the British. Let it be known to your Excellency, Oh! Sire, that it is an Arabian adage, that "Let the body be burnt, but do not let the wuttum (native country) be pierced through." It is better to sell one another than do this. It will cut off from him his resources, and deprive him of his dignity, &c.

Friendship and treaties have long subsisted between us and your Excellency, and will continue so; and during the last 45 years we have never experienced anything evil from you, nor you from us.

If your Excellency have any business in Aden, whether for a long or short time, your and our ports are the same. We and you are identical. Our and your friends and foes are the same. You should live under your own flag, and we under our own. Such an arrangement may be entered into.

We shall never do anything bad to you; nor you to us; any one may subsist on his resources and name.

In case any aggression, whether by sea or land, be attempted upon us by our enemies, we shall trust in the Almighty and you; because the enmity of the tribes surrounding us will be increased; whom we will not dread, if you maintain a union with us, and act in conjunction with us.

With regard to the 4,191 rials, it will be better, if you remit a part of it, for it (the demand) does not consist with the principles of equity.

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— No. 48. —

PAPER accompanying the Letter of the Sultan of Aden.

15 January 1838.

WE are in great want of 800 large shot for guns, each weighing from four to five seers, as also bullets, lead, and powder, for muskets; we also require gun-carriages. As stated in our letter, our ports are those of yours; our friends and foes are likewise yours. Commander Haines will in person make you perfectly informed.

No. 48.  
Paper accompany-  
ing the Letter of  
the Sultan of Aden.

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— No. 49. —

MINUTE by the Governor of Bombay, to which Mr. Farish subscribed.  
(Extract.)

26 March 1838.

THE question regarding the occupation of Aden, is on various accounts so important, and is likely to be the occasion of so much discussion, that the authorities with whom the decision rests, ought to be put in full possession of the views with which we have acted in respect to it, and of the serious considerations which in our conception it involves.

Whether looking to the immediate or the remote, the present or the prospective concern of British India in this question, the authorities referred to will, I trust, approve of our proceedings; but highly as I value their good opinion, the conduct of this or that Government seems to me but a very secondary object of consideration in the case. My anxiety is, not so much that they should approve, as that they should adopt and ratify our measures. I deem it of the highest moment to press upon them with all the earnestness of entreaty, which, consistently with the deference due to them, we may properly use, to secure for the British Government, at the only moment when such a step is likely to be practicable for centuries, a possession which unforeseen circumstances have placed within their reach, and which cannot but be attended with incalculable benefit to all the interests of which they are the constituted guardians.

It may be proper for me, in the first place, to allude briefly to the facts of the case, and especially to the circumstances and considerations that have led this Government into these relations with Aden, which at present exist only in a provisional shape, and may be dissolved at pleasure, but which, as I presume to think, every motive both of self-regard and self-respect, calls on the British Government to convert into a permanent connexion.

No. 49.  
Minute by the  
Governor of  
Bombay.

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In March 1837, the Superintendent of the Indian Navy inclosed to Government a letter from Captain Haines, who was then at Maculla, dated in the preceding October, from which it appeared that both the Arabian and Abyssinian coasts of the Gulf of Aden were becoming very unsafe from the depredations committed on trading vessels, and that the Sultan of Aden had shown himself to be little better than a common marauder. An instance was stated, in which that chief had used very ill the crew of an Arab ship wrecked on his coast, plundering them of all they had, even to their clothes, and levying such exactions on the master, that, in anger or despair, he burned his vessel.

The Bombay Government could only give general instructions, that, in case of any outrage being offered to a vessel under British colours, redress should be peremptorily demanded. But long before these instructions were issued, and indeed before the intelligence which elicited them had reached Bombay, a case, such as they supposed, had actually occurred.

In January 1837, the *Doria Dowlut*, a Madras ship, freighted chiefly from Calcutta and the Malabar coast, and sailing under British colours, was intentionally wrecked by the sailing master on the coast of Aden. The inhabitants of the town plundered the vessel, and refused to take the crew from the wreck, or to supply them with provisions; in consequence of which, several of them perished in the attempt to save themselves. Such as succeeded in reaching the shore were robbed and stripped naked, and some Mahomedan women of respectability, bound on a pilgrimage to Mecca, suffered the most brutal and shameful indignities. The wretched victims appealed to the authorities in vain. There is every reason to believe that the Sultan himself took a portion of the booty, but at all events, it was, with his connivance, taken by his officers.

The Bombay Government, on learning these circumstances, instantly brought them to the knowledge of that of India, stating that the outrage which had thus been committed by the authorities at Aden on the persons and property of individuals sailing under the British flag, and entitled to British protection, called for prompt notice and effectual redress, and requesting permission to enforce the demand, if ample satisfaction were not conceded. Before that call could be answered from Calcutta, we followed it up with a proposal that we should immediately be allowed to take possession of the port of Aden, as a compensation for the insult offered to the British flag.

This last proposal is no longer in question; for it was disapproved by the Supreme Government. It is possible that the course we recommended may to many appear extreme. By the acknowledged laws, however, of civilized nations, every Power is entitled to insist on redress for injuries inflicted by another Power on its subjects; such redress embracing ample satisfaction for the evil done, and full security against a repetition; and if that other Power either cannot, or will not, meet the call, both for the past and future, the injured party is completely justified in adopting measures of coercion to avenge the wrong, and to establish the security.

Undoubtedly, the advantage of occupying Aden as a station convenient for the purposes of steam navigation, entered largely into the views of the Bombay Government; but we should never have proposed to take forcible possession of the place had we not conceived, not only that the insult and injury offered to the British flag demanded signal reparation, but that nothing less than the occupation of the port under civilized rule would ensure us against the recurrence of both. It seemed to us, that having to deal with a barbarous nest of robbers, miscalling themselves a Government, we had a right to carve out redress for ourselves; that to disarm the offenders was our only valid security for the future, and that it could form no objection to this measure that we should gain by it far greater advantages than they would sacrifice.

I now, however, allude to this proposition only historically, for the Government of India declined acceding to it; and I am willing to admit that they estimated it more correctly than that of Bombay. The rules of justice cannot be held too sacred. For the sake of these and of the British character, it might be right to act with a forbearance which the offending party itself did not deserve.

It is possible that, in that instance, we were somewhat misled by the very tempting advantages which the port of Aden offered. But that question being gone by, and the only measure now in contemplation being not the seizure, but the free purchase, of Aden, I may be allowed, without suspicion, to draw attention to those advantages, as they stand particularly described in my minute of the



23d September. I shall here only say, that as a military post of great strength, as an excellent depôt for coals, as an admirable harbour for our steamers, as a station fitted to be the mart or entrepôt of an extensive commerce, and as a convenient half-way house between Bombay and Suez, Aden has no rival. Even with regard to the transit to the Red Sea, from the Point de Galle, the Superintendent of the Indian Navy, who has paid great attention to the subject, considers this port as preferable to Socotra. In respect to Bombay, its superiority is very decided. But this has reference only to the question of commerce and navigation. There are other advantages possessed by Aden which, as will appear in the sequel, render the possession of it most essential to the British power.

The Government of India, as I have already observed, did not view the pillage of the *Doria Dowlut* as an outrage which would justify us in taking possession of Aden. We were therefore directed only to demand redress; if that were granted, some amicable arrangements might be made for the occupation of the place; if it were refused, further measures might be considered, and in the meantime information might be collected of the political state of Aden, and of the neighbouring countries.

The instructions already alluded to, of the Government of India, after directing that satisfaction should in the first instance be demanded of the Sultan of Aden, for the outrage committed in the instance of the *Doria Dowlut*, proceeded to say: "If it be granted, some amicable arrangements may be made with him for the occupation of the port as a depôt for coals, and harbour for shelter."

Under these directions, the Bombay Government in the first instance contented itself with instructing Captain Haines, who was deputed to Aden on the occasion, to demand redress of the Sultan, and also to obtain, if possible, his consent to our establishing there a coal depôt. On its being brought to our knowledge, however, by the Superintendent of the Indian Navy, that, in the opinion of Captain Haines, the Sultan would willingly, and on very favourable terms, make over to us the almost isolated point of Aden, we conceived that the instructions of the Supreme Government would bear us out in obtaining such transfer. We therefore directed Captain Haines to enter into terms with the Sultan for that purpose, subject to the confirmation of Government.

The Government of India did not indeed in express words authorize us to negotiate with the Sultan for a cession to us of the port and harbour; but they desired us to obtain the occupation of the port as a coal depôt, and that of the harbour as a place of shelter. These words far exceed the mere establishment of a coal depôt, under the auspices of the Sultan, and in fact could not in any practical sense, or to any beneficial purpose, be fulfilled, except by our obtaining the occupation of that port and harbour as a matter not of sufferance but of right.

In the conduct of the mission entrusted to him, Captain Haines displayed, as it appears to me, considerable firmness and patience. He demanded, and with much difficulty obtained, the restoration of a third of the value of the plundered vessel, which, for the reasons he assigns, appeared a just, though a moderate, demand.

Having accomplished the first part of his duty, this officer proceeded to treat for the proposed transfer. After less delay and fewer difficulties than could have been expected, the Sultan made, under his seal, a formal cession of the town and promontory of Aden to the British; and it was agreed that he should receive the sum of 8,700 dollars annually in lieu of the revenue which he now derives from the port dues, and which Captain Haines estimates at 6,000 dollars.

But when all seemed thus satisfactorily concluded, the Sultan's son, excited by an intriguing relative, seems to have formed the plan of seizing Captain Haines at their parting interview, for the purpose of forcing from him all the papers connected with his mission. Private intelligence of this meditated treachery was conveyed to the British, and the interview was avoided. Captain Haines supposes, and I have no doubt justly, that the hope of recovering the bond for 4,000 dollars which had been given in part payment of the compensation for the plunder of the *Doria Dowlut*, instigated the attempt. I am not, however, disposed to treat the matter as one of much importance. We have no knowledge of it but from report, and all concerned in it will solemnly deny the truth of the information. Meanwhile the written agreement of the Sultan himself, evidenced by his seal, remains in our hands. Captain Haines, whose judgment I would greatly trust, believes that a firm countenance, and, if it be necessary to buy off



the latent opposition, the prudent disbursement of a few dollars, would smooth away every difficulty.

While, however, I am for regarding this intended outbreak as in itself a matter of small consequence, there is one view in which it can hardly be overrated; in fact, I cannot but hail it as a most happy incident. It settles conclusively the necessity of our holding the port and harbour of Aden in our own hands, if we mean to avail ourselves of the one as a depôt for our coals, and of the other as a shelter for our vessels, whether of war, or commerce, or transit. I need not minutely repeat what I have already urged on this head. To place our ships and steamers at the mercy of a barbarian power, whose best intentions and most solemn engagements are liable every moment to overthrow, by the turbulence of the jarring elements that compose it, is to build the citadel of our strength on a shifting and treacherous sand.

I shall only add, that the approbation of Government should be expressed to Captain Haines for his conduct; he of course to be indemnified for the value of the presents he made, or other expenses; and some extra allowance might be made to him for the time during which he was employed in his mission. The military secretary may be requested to favour us with precedents on this point.

No. 50.

The Bombay  
Government to the  
Court of Directors,  
30 March 1838.

— No. 50. —

The Bombay Government to the Court of Directors.

(Extract.)

Bombay Castle, 30 March 1838.

WE have only time to request your Court will take into your earliest consideration the important questions discussed in these minutes, and favour us with your sentiments and instructions on them as early as practicable.

No. 51.

The Secretary with  
the Governor-  
General to the  
Secretary to the  
Bombay Govern-  
ment, 2 July 1838.

— No. 51. —

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Secretary to the  
Bombay Government.

Sir,

Simla, 2 July 1838.

I AM directed to acknowledge your three dispatches, with inclosures, under date the 5th ultimo, reporting the result of negotiations for the transfer of the port of Aden to the British Government.

The Governor-General is of opinion that it is an object of great importance for the maintenance of steam communication, that a depôt for coals should be established at the port of Aden, and he considers the arrangements effected for this end as satisfactory.

As regards however the taking possession, by sale or transfer, of that port as a dependency of Bombay, his Lordship does not feel himself at liberty to express an opinion, further than in stating his concurrence with the Government of Bombay in the high estimate which has been formed of the value of this position. The question is one on which Her Majesty's Government is rather called upon to pronounce judgment, than the Supreme Government of India.

The Governor in Council will doubtless take early occasion to refer the arrangements entered into for the British occupation of Aden, to the Court of Directors, in order that communication may be had with Her Majesty's Ministers, whose concurrence would appear to be requisite before the measures can be considered final.

I have, &c.

H. Torrens.



## —No. 52.—

The Bombay Government to the Secret Committee.

(Extract.)

Bombay Castle, 27 August 1838.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Committee's letter, dated the 30th May last, forwarding, for our information and guidance, a copy of your dispatch to the Government of India, regarding the occupation of Aden.

It appears to be the wish of the Home authorities that the port of Aden should be occupied by this Government without delay; indeed it seems to be their expectation that measures are already in progress to secure this important object; which, however, we beg to state is not the case. The question as to taking possession of it by sale or transfer, was on the 5th of June last referred to the Governor-General of India, and we were, in reply, informed, that his Lordship did not feel himself at liberty to express an opinion on the subject, further than in stating his concurrence with this Government in the estimate which had been formed of the value of this position, and that the question was one on which Her Majesty's Government was rather called upon to pronounce judgment than the Supreme Government of India.

Since the receipt, however, of your Committee's present dispatch, we deemed it proper to make a further reference to the Governor-General of India, as we did not feel ourselves at liberty to embark in this, or any distant enterprize, without his Lordship's special sanction, at a time when all the resources of this Presidency may be put in requisition to secure interests of far greater importance than the occupation of Aden.

If we could rely with confidence that the occupation of Aden could be peaceably effected, on the fulfilment on our part of our engagement to pay to the Sultan the amount stipulated by Captain Haines of the Indian Navy, we should not have hesitated in adopting immediate measures to meet the wishes of the Home authorities; for little more would in this case have been necessary than to select a suitable officer for the duty, and to send him to Aden, with such military or naval force, stores, &c., as would be a protection against open or secret attacks from the Arabs in the vicinity.

From the manner, however, in which Captain Haines's mission terminated, we do not think that we can fairly calculate that no opposition will be encountered; and, in this case, common prudence requires that the officer who is deputed to Aden should be accompanied by a force sufficient to contend against such opposition. In short, this appears the most likely mode of preventing opposition to our views.

As a preliminary measure, we have called upon the Superintendent of the Indian Navy to state what means are at our disposal for carrying the above measure into effect, and to report, after having communicated with Captain Haines,

1st, Whether it was likely that any great difficulty would be experienced in carrying into effect the engagement negotiated by Captain Haines with the Sultan of Aden.

2d. What amount of force, military and naval, would be required to effect the object amicably.

3d. What force of both descriptions would be necessary, on the supposition that the authorities at Aden refuse to adhere to their engagements, and resist our designs.

We shall not fail to report our further proceedings regarding Aden to your Committee, without delay.

## —No. 53.—

The Superintendent of the Indian Navy to the Governor of Bombay.

(Extract.)

Bombay, 23 August 1838.

IN reply to Mr. Willoughby's letter of the 21st instant, requiring me to consult with Commander Haines, and to report on the several points submitted

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## No 52.

The Bombay Government to the Secret Committee,  
27 August 1838.

## No. 53.

The Superintendent of the Indian Navy to the Governor of Bombay,  
23 August 1838.



relative to the occupation of Aden, I have the honour to inclose the accompanying copy of a letter from Commander Haines (his indisposition preventing my having a personal conference), that will be found a better reply to the third paragraph than I feel myself in a position to judge of correctly; but should suppose, an able negotiator would induce him to follow up favourably the former proposed treaty.

The second and third paragraphs I conceive would be answered amply in the proposed number of troops under either circumstances, it making but little difference, until all settled down to quiet rule.

Coote, 18 guns,  
Palinurus, 6 guns,  
Nerbudda and Margaret, small cutters, and either the Constance or Mahe schooners.

The naval force available, excluding the steamers, would be as per margin, one of the schooners being kept at the Presidency to bring up treasure from the coast; but if the steam-vessels are diverted from their present employment, both must be retained to carry dispatches or mails.

A sloop, and one small vessel, with the two coal or gun boats, would afford, I should conceive, ample protection; it being borne in mind, a steam-vessel is in the port twice in a month; that gives weight; should it be found advisable to have a floating depôt there for the coal, that, I beg leave to recommend, armed as a block ship, would contribute much to the defence at a cheap rate, and which would dispense with the services of an active vessel.

— No. 54. —

No. 54.  
Captain Haines to  
the Superintendent  
of the Indian Navy,  
22 Aug. 1838.

Captain *Haines* to the Superintendent of the Indian Navy.

Sir,

Bombay, 22 August 1838.

IN obedience to your wishes I have the honour to offer my opinion on the required points.

I consider it probable there will be difficulty in at once arranging for the transfer of Aden to the British, for Arabs are at all times slow and uncertain; they will require some days to talk the matter over, as well as to endeavour to obtain the best possible bargain for the same. However, all will I think be overcome by the influence of money, and the sight of troops, particularly if some be European.

From experience, I can affirm that intercourse with the chieftain of Aden, and his relatives, who possess so much influence over him, will require a considerable share of patience, united with a cool determined manner, to bring them to their senses; and when they appear to be wavering, I would suggest, that an evident wish to conciliate by mild measures be evinced, marked with decisive adherence to any previous threat, promise, or agreement.

The difficulty in immediately arranging the transfer of Aden to the British, will not, I feel assured, originate with the Sultan, but with his son Hamed, and son-in-law Syed M. Houssain, the latter being a designing and intriguing character; one who would sell the whole family to benefit himself. Then, again, the chief of the Houshibee tribe has a daughter married to Hamed, and they, consequently, would look forward to some share of the spoil.

I would recommend that whosoever proceeds to Aden be authorized, by the Governor in Council, to correspond with the surrounding tribes, particularly the Futhellee and Yaffaar chieftains, assuring them at the same time that it is the wish of the British Government to be on the most friendly terms, and to encourage commerce for the benefit of their States; this I would do to avert the suspicion of our first encroachment.

In answer to the second and third query, I respectfully beg to say, that I consider it would be most advisable to be prepared for resistance, and for which purpose I would recommend the following military and naval force:

MILITARY



## MILITARY.

|                              | Rank and File. |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| European Infantry - - - - -  | 300 men.       |
| European Artillery - - - - - | 40 men.        |
| Native Infantry - - - - -    | 250 men.       |
| Native Artillery - - - - -   | 60 men.        |

A party of engineers, and sappers and miners.

## NAVAL.

- 1 Sloop of 18 guns, which, in case of storm, would send 60 European seamen and 14 sepoys.  
 1 Brig of 10 guns - - - 30 seamen and 8 sepoys to storm.  
 1 Schooner, long gun } - - - 12 seamen and 4 sepoys to storm.  
 1 Cutter, long gun - }

Two gun-boats, flat-bottomed, would do afterwards as coal boats; some mortars and rockets; two light flying six-pounders, or twelve-pounders howitzer guns; besides these, to defend the different points from attack, when Aden is in our possession, I would recommend from 24 to 28 iron guns, the calibre from 12 to 18-pounders, and two of smaller size, prepared for martello towers.

For the security of Aden, after possession is obtained, the defences in order, and the surrounding tribes peaceably disposed, I consider the following would be sufficient troops to garrison it:

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| European Infantry - - - - -  | 200 men. |
| European Artillery - - - - - | 40 men.  |
| Native Infantry - - - - -    | 200 men. |
| Native Artillery - - - - -   | 60 men.  |

I give this opinion in consideration of what I think will be necessary at first; but as the population increases (which it soon will under the British flag), and Aden becomes a mercantile emporium, perhaps it will be found necessary to increase this strength.

I would not advise the absence of all the vessels of war for some time after it is in our possession, as the Bedouins hold the appearance of a fighting vessel in great dread.

In conclusion, I beg to mention, that no building materials or artificers can be obtained at Aden.

I have, &c.

S. B. Haines.

## — No. 55. —

The Secretary to the Government of Bombay to the Superintendent of the Indian Navy.

(Extract.)

Bombay, 5 September 1838.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 22d ultimo, forwarding a report from Commander Haines regarding the occupation of Aden by the British Government, and in reply, to inform you, that the Governor in Council has resolved on adopting the following measures.

Government has resolved in the first instance to obtain peaceable possession of Aden. For this purpose Commander Haines is to be immediately deputed to that place, for the purpose of inducing the Sultan of Lahedge to carry into effect the agreement which he entered into for the cession of Aden to the British Government.

The Governor in Council therefore directs that Commander Haines proceed with as little delay as possible to Aden, on board the Company's sloop of war Coote, and that you will instruct the commander of that vessel to act in conformity with such orders as he may receive from Commander Haines.

On his arrival at Aden, Commander Haines will at once proceed to renew his former negotiations with the Sultan of Aden, and should be careful in no way to exhibit any mistrust as to the immediate ratification of the cession.

## No. 55.

The Secretary to the Bombay Government to the Superintendent of the Indian Navy, 5 September 1838.



Should that officer, however, perceive any inclination on the part of the Sultan to recede from his engagement, he should take the opportunity of impressing on the Sultan the insufficiency of the reparation afforded for the insult and injury offered to the ship *Doria Dowlut*, when trading under British colours, and distinctly intimate to him that, uncoupled with the cession of Aden, the insult offered on that occasion to the British flag would have been followed with the severest marks of the displeasure of the British Government.

Should Commander Haines eventually find a stronger tone necessary, he should point out to the Sultan, that the agreement for the cession of Aden was actually concluded, with the exception of the specific sum to be annually paid by the British Government; that even this amount was agreed upon, and a meeting arranged with the Sultan's son for the final ratification of the engagement, when Commander Haines was prevented from attending, in consequence of information that treachery was intended, and that the seizure of his person was in contemplation.

The Sultan should further be informed, that if he now ratifies the cession, the British Government will be satisfied that the above information was unfounded, and that no such unpardonable outrage was intended. On the other hand, should he now draw back from his pledged faith, he will be held responsible, not only for the insult to the British flag in the case of the *Doria Dowlut*, but also for that meditated towards the person of the officer deputed by the British Government to demand reparation for the former.

Finally, but not until every effort has been made to induce the Sultan to ratify the cession, he should be informed, that on Commander Haines reporting to Government that the Sultan has receded from his engagement, it is highly probable that a competent force will be immediately sent to take possession of Aden, and that the British Government will in such a case hold it without any acknowledgment or payment whatever, either to himself or family.

Inclosed is the draft of a treaty in English and Arabic, which the Governor in Council is desirous of concluding with the Sultan of Aden, subject, however, to the final ratification of the Governor-general of India.

With reference to the second article, I am directed to observe, that the Governor in Council leaves it to Commander Haines's discretion to make a moderate addition to the sum of 8,700 dollars, which the Sultan agreed to accept for the cession, should he be of opinion that the Sultan will thereby be conciliated, and induced voluntarily to adhere to his engagement. I am also directed to state, that the payment of the sum agreed upon may be made quarterly or half-yearly, should the Sultan desire it.

In the event of Commander Haines's negotiations terminating satisfactorily, the Governor in Council is pleased to authorize that officer to remit in full the payment of the sum required as reparation for the plunder of the *Doria Dowlut*, should he observe that this is a point on which strong feeling exists. The bond taken from the Sultan, providing for the payment of this sum, should in this case be restored to him.

Commander Haines will be provided with such amount of dollars as he may deem necessary, and with such presents as he may conceive best suited to the tastes of the Sultan and his family, and of a few of the most influential persons at Aden, although he should be cautious not to exhibit any excess of liberality, lest unreasonable expectations should be excited.

The Governor in Council is of opinion that a few presents judiciously distributed will materially tend to the successful issue of his negotiations.

To give the greater weight to this mission, and to keep down the disposition to violence, which Commander Haines appears to have been exposed to on his first visit to Aden, an escort of 30 Europeans, under an intelligent commissioned officer, will be embarked on board the *Coote*.

Lieutenant Western, of the Engineers, has also been directed to accompany the mission to Aden, for the purpose of reporting on the fortifications at present existing, and on what will be required for the proper defences of the place, and for the accommodation of such troops as may hereafter be sent there.

Commander Haines is likewise permitted to take with him the interpreter who witnessed the agreement of cession, and Sheik Tyebe, the late native agent at Mocha. The influence of the latter person with the Sultan is stated to be considerable, and his accompanying the mission may therefore prove very beneficial.

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It may probably become necessary that Commander Haines should hold communications with the Arab tribes in the vicinity of Aden. He should, however, carefully limit his intercourse with these tribes to assurances of good will and friendship so long as they maintain relations of amity with the British Government, and which they may be assured it is our earnest wish to cherish.

Commander Haines will guarantee to the Sultan of Aden protection to himself and family to the extent specified in the accompanying treaty; but he should be explicitly informed, that so long as British rights and interests are respected, Government will not interfere in the quarrels of the different tribes surrounding, unless our mediation is sought for by both parties.

You are requested to furnish Commander Haines with the draft of the treaty in English and Arabic, alluded to in the 9th paragraph of this letter. It is desirable that the terms of the treaty should be fully understood by the interpreter who is to accompany Commander Haines, and you will therefore be pleased to instruct that officer to send him to the office of the Persian Secretary, in order that they may be explained to him.

The original deed of transfer, and the bond for remuneration on account of the plunder of the Doria Dowlut, are likewise inclosed, for the purpose of being delivered to Commander Haines.

You will be pleased to instruct the commander of the Company's sloop-of-war Coote, to place himself under the orders of Commander Haines during that officer's mission, and to attend to such requisitions as he may from time to time receive.

You are also requested to instruct the commander of the Company's steamer Berenice to call at Aden without fail on the return of that vessel from Suez, in order to convey dispatches from Commander Haines. Should the latter officer, however, not have arrived at Aden, Captain Lowe will endeavour to obtain information regarding the state of affairs at that place; without, however, delaying the steamer's passage to Bombay more than two or three hours.

It is to be hoped that Commander Haines, however, will reach Aden in sufficient time to admit of his communicating by the steamer full information of the progress of his negotiations, and at the same time of explaining his views of the number and description of troops and ordnance necessary to garrison and defend Aden; the means available for quartering the men; the stores and provisions required; the resources of the neighbouring country; the time when it will be best for the troops to reach Aden; and on any other point (not omitting a full account of the present condition and resources of Aden itself) which may occur to him desirable to be submitted for the consideration of Government.

You will also instruct Commander Haines to communicate the result of his mission to Colonel Campbell, to enable that officer to transmit information of his proceedings to Her Majesty's Government. Inclosed is a letter from the Governor to the address of the Sultan of Aden, which Commander Haines is authorized to deliver or withhold, as he may, according to circumstances, deem most expedient.

Commander Haines is permitted to draw the same allowances as were granted to him on the occasion of his first mission to Aden.

As the duty now confided to this officer is purely of a political nature, you will be pleased to instruct him to correspond direct with Government, in the political or secret department.

I have, &c.

*J. P. Willoughby.*

— No. 56. —

Draft of a Treaty between the British Government and the Sultan of Aden.

1. THE Sultan of Aden agrees to cede in perpetuity, in free sovereignty to the British Government, the land of Aden, as far as the northern side of the Khore Muksa, including the mountains and every part of the land generally included in what is called Cape Aden, together with the harbours of the same, named Gubet Toowye, Bunder Serah, Bunder Duras, and the islands within the same, as well as Seerah Island, and all fortifications, reservoirs, tanks, wells, public buildings, gates and ruins, now existing within the above limits.

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No. 56.

Treaty between the British Government and the Sultan of Aden.



2. The British Government agree to pay the sum of 1000 dollars to the Sultan of Aden annually in arrears on the 31st December of each year, or so long as they may retain possession of the territory ceded in the first article.

3. The British Government engages that no interference or molestation shall at any time be offered those who profess the Mahomedan religion, and that no injury or damage shall be done to the mosque of Sheik Hydroosse, or to any other mosque or place of Mahomedan worship. The free and unrestricted exercise of religion is guaranteed the Mahomedan priests and all who profess that faith.

4. All persons who may choose to reside within the limits defined in the first article, shall be entitled to British protection, according to the laws which may be established by the British Government.

5. The Sultan of Aden engages to afford every facility in his power for the prosecution of commerce within his dominions, and the country adjacent thereto, and will afford efficient protection to all persons under the British Government and flag, resorting to them for commercial or other peaceful pursuits.

6. The British Government will maintain the most amicable relations with the Sultan, his family, relations, and tribe. The Sultan and his family will be at liberty to reside at Aden, and will be treated with the courtesy and honour due to their rank and station.

7. Two of the vessels belonging to the Sultan of Aden, not exceeding the burthen of 200 tons each, shall be allowed to trade with Aden free of duties; should they, however, be freighted with the property of his subjects or other persons, the usual duties will be levied thereon.

8. The British Government guarantees to the present inhabitants of the territory ceded in the first article, the full and undisturbed enjoyment of all houses and other private property now in their possession. In the event of any part of the same being required for public purposes, the same will be purchased at a fair valuation.

9. The Sultan of Aden will be allowed to retain his present private dwelling-houses. All ordnance now at Aden is the property of the Sultan, and may be removed to Lahedge.

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— No. 57. —

The Governor of Bombay to the Sultan of Aden.

(A. C.)

I HAVE dispatched Captain Haines to conclude the arrangement previously agreed upon for the transfer of the point and harbour of Aden to the British Government.

I have considered you would be best pleased with seeing this officer, as you are personally so well known to him, and the final ratification of a treaty of friendship will be with greater facility and more satisfactorily arranged between old friends.

The Government received your letters, and will attend to your wishes when the final arrangements for the occupation of Aden have been completed.

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— No. 58. —

The Secretary to the Bombay Government to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.)

Bombay Castle, 5 September 1838.

WITH reference to my letter, dated the 25th ultimo, regarding the occupation of Aden by the British Government, I am directed to forward, for submission to the Governor-General of India, extracts from the further proceedings of this Government connected with the same subject, from which his Lordship will observe that this Government has resolved, for the reasons therein recorded, to adopt immediate measures for obtaining the peaceable possession of Aden.

I am further directed to express the earnest hope of this Government that the measures about to be adopted for securing this important object, without previous instructions, will, under the circumstances of the case, meet with his Lordship's approval.

From the recent communications from England, it is evident that the Home Authorities attach much importance to the possession of Aden; and it has occurred to

No. 57.

The Governor of  
Bombay to the  
Sultan of Aden.

No. 58.

The Secretary to  
the Bombay Go-  
vernment to the  
Secretary with the  
Governor-General,  
5 Sept. 1838.



to this Government that any delay in our endeavours to obtain possession, may be productive of future difficulties.

With reference to the draft of the treaty which Commander Haines has been instructed to negotiate with the Sultan of Aden, the Governor-General of India will observe that it is to be made subject to the final ratification of his Lordship; and I am therefore requested to solicit the sentiments of his Lordship on that document.

The Governor in Council further requests that his Lordship will be pleased to sanction Commander Haines receiving the same extra allowance as was assigned to him during his last mission, namely, 500 rupees per mensem.

As, in the event of a successful issue to Commander Haines's mission, Aden will immediately become the most suitable depôt for coals, the Governor in Council further requests the Governor-General of India's sanction for the construction of a block-ship for coals, and for defence of the harbour of Aden, as recommended by the Superintendent of the Indian Navy, in his letter of the 23d ultimo, a copy of which was forwarded to you on the 25th of the same month.

I have, &c.

*J. P. Willoughby.*

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— No. 59. —

The Bombay Government to the Secret Committee.

Sirs,

Bombay Castle, 7 September 1838.

IN continuation of our dispatches, dated 27 and 29 ultimo, we have the honour to inform you that, on re-consideration, we have resolved to adopt immediate measures for attempting to obtain peaceable possession of Aden, without waiting for the previous instructions of the Governor-General of India.

As the steamer *Berenice* will leave Bombay on the 8th instant, we have not time here to enter into a detail of the reasons which have induced us to come to the above resolution.

The annexed extract from our proceedings, but more particularly our letters to the Secretary with the Governor-General of India, and to the Superintendent of the Indian Navy, will, however, afford your Committee full information of the reasons which have influenced us in determining that no time should be lost in endeavouring to obtain possession of Aden, and of the mode by which we have resolved to attempt to effect this important object.

Commander Haines, the officer who has been selected for this duty, has received orders to communicate the result of his mission to Colonel Campbell, Her Majesty's consul at Alexandria, in order to enable that officer to communicate early intelligence of the same to Her Majesty's Government.

In conclusion, we earnestly hope that your Committee will consider that we have exercised a sound discretion in having adopted measures for the occupation of Aden on our own responsibility.

We have, &c.

*J. Farish.*

*G. W. Anderson,*

*J. Dunlop.*

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— No. 60. —

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

Sir,

Simla, 4 October 1838.

I AM desired by the Governor-General of India to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 5th ultimo, transmitting extract from further proceedings, communicating that the Bombay Government has resolved, for reasons therein recorded, to adopt measures for obtaining the peaceable possession of Aden.

In reply, I am desired to state that the Governor-General is not aware of any objection to the terms of the proposed treaty; but his Lordship is glad to find that,

No. 59.

The Bombay Government to the Secret Committee, 7 September 1838.

No. 60.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Secretary to the Bombay Government, 4 October 1838.



in the present crisis of our affairs, the Governor in Council has resolved to resort to no other than peaceful means for the attainment of the object in view.

I have, &c.

*W. H. Macnaghten.*

— No. 61. —

No. 61.  
Captain Haines  
to the Secretary  
to the Bombay  
Government,  
6 November 1838.

Captain *Haines* to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

(Extract.)

Aden, 6 November 1838.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of Government, my opinion on various subjects relative to Aden.

One, and the primary, obstacle to the chieftain's not immediately transferring Aden to the British is owing to only the Coote being sent; their first exclamation was, "Are the English so poor they can only afford to send one vessel? and she came only to talk! Why did they not send her before? Had they sent their men and vessels, we would have given up; but until they do, they never shall have the place."

The above was the first information I received after arrival, and what has passed between us since, will be shown by the copy of letters which I forward. We were received in a most uncivil manner; supplies of wood and water refused, and our lives threatened: to all which I paid no attention, for, from knowing their character, I deemed it advisable to permit the first ebullition of the hasty temper of the Sultan's son to cool, and then by firmness to endeavour to gain my point.

After a few days had elapsed, and they began to consider calmly on future consequences, I found them more civil, and, after deliberating among themselves, all but one of the influential men considered it better to conclude the arrangement; this chieftain is the brother-in-law of the Sultan, and has power among one of the subdivisions of the Abdalees, called Zaaidees.

Eight thousand dollars I offered; and the chieftains, to make the best arrangement they can among their followers, have persuaded them the offer is only six thousand; so that whatever arrangement may be made among themselves, the remaining two thousand will not be taken into consideration.

To arrange with me, and to obtain any possible advantage that cunning, ability, and roguery can, they have chosen a council consisting of two Syeds (whose character I well know), the Kazee of Lahedge, and the Sultan's son Hamed. The Sultan is too great an invalid to attend, and too much under the power of the others to exert his authority.

I earnestly recommend that the troops to occupy Aden may be sent up as early as convenient, and that the number should not be less than the statement I forwarded to the Superintendent of the Indian Navy, dated 23d August, but, if possible, the whole be increased to 700 or 800 men; for should I not be successful in obtaining the transfer before they arrive, and the chieftains be disposed to play a deceitful game, such numerical power, with the assistance of the vessels of war, would render its capture without great loss no uncertainty, and be a just punishment for their continued insults to the British flag.

I also respectfully suggest that the naval force mentioned in the same letter be sent up; for the small vessels and gun-boats will do most essential service, if required, at the head of the bay.

In thus offering my opinion, I do not for a moment consider it will ever come to the extremity of using force; the sight will be sufficient; but I deem it advisable to be on the right side, for the difference of expense in transports, &c. will not be much greater, and after we are in possession, and the defences in order, the surplus men can be returned by the Government monthly steamers.

On the contrary, it is my opinion that all will be completed before the troops arrive; for the Bedouins can never settle the division of a bag of dates without several hours' wrangling; and it cannot be expected that, in arranging so important a point, they would act contrary to what from infancy they are habituated to.

My



My best policy is to permit them to fight and quarrel among themselves, and in time they will become cool, and listen to reason.

I take the liberty of suggesting that, in whatever vessels the troops may be sent, they may bring with them a large supply of water; and, in case of a long passage, that they put into Maculla to complete. I mention this precaution in case the transfer is not made, for the water is all confined to the precincts of the town.

While here, Commander Denton has used his best endeavours to obtain water by digging near the ship, and I yet hope he may be successful in obtaining it. A boring-machine and complete apparatus for digging will be most useful, if sent up with the troops; for it will afterwards be necessary either to make tanks or dig wells near the shipping for their consumption.

I should recommend that a good supply of provisions be sent up in the transports, for it will be some time ere the inhabitants are settled after the late disturbances; in fact, many of the merchants are now sending what they can out of the town, being fearful that the Bedouins will plunder it before they quit it, 700 of whom were billeted on the inhabitants on the 2d of November.

Owing to my not having been able to accompany Lieutenant Western of the Engineers to the town, it is out of my power to forward any further opinion of what may be necessary, but I consider my previous reports nearly correct, though on a small scale. From information and observation, no repairs of fortifications have taken place, and the only change is, that they have mounted three better guns over the Northern Pass, and two others in front are placed so as to command the Eastern Bay, and the passage between Seerah and the Southern Gate.

The spot previously chosen by me for the coal depôt, called Ras Sheik Hamed, has been examined by Lieutenant Western, and we are both of the same opinion as to its eligible position, and also on the kind of building best adapted, which in Bombay would cost 4,000 or 5,000 rupees. Sheik Hamed is a sandy point, having even ground capacious enough to answer all purposes, and the water off it sufficiently deep to enable a steamer to lay within 100 yards of the shore land-locked. The building is divided into several divisions, capable of containing 200 tons, with a door to each, so that a steamer will take one, and the quality of the coal be similar; whereas if thrown together in large quantities, the first steamer would receive large coal and the latter small, besides the wastage being much greater. Lieutenant Western's report and plans for the depôt, I have the honour to forward with my approval and recommendation.

I further beg to offer my opinion that, in addition to the coal-shed, there should be a flat-bottomed hulk capable of holding 800 or 1,000 tons of coal, which vessel, with a crew and guns, would answer as a guard or blockship for the protection of the trade, and her crew could at all times assist in coaling steamers. It would be further advantageous if a small pier were erected off the coal-shed, to facilitate the loading and unloading; but should it be considered more advantageous to run the pier out sufficiently far to enable the steamers to lay along aside of it, a diving apparatus would be required for working at the outer stones, the declivity from the point being very sudden into 18 or 20 feet water.

The sultan having issued orders in Aden that no intercourse was to take place between the ship and town, and prohibited all supplies from being sent, I wrote officially to Commander Denton, to prevent provisions from entering the town from seaward. This they will soon feel inconvenient, for it is the season when they receive their annual supply of dates from the Gulf; and I only regret I have not a small vessel at my disposal to secure equally an effectual stoppage at the front bay, which would very soon bring them to their senses.

I trust that the Governor in Council will consider that I have acted correctly in stopping the trade as far as the Coote alone can do it, and that the rash insolent conduct of the son, who has the Bedouins in his control, justified me in doing so; for during this visit they have added insult on insult; first, in stopping supplies; secondly, in refusing to permit my sending the British property out of the town; thirdly, in writing the insolent letter he did.

As a blockade of Aden will be severely felt at this season, I respectfully beg that a brig or schooner of war be dispatched as early as possible to assist in doing so, for I am almost convinced a demonstration of that kind will prevent any force being used, to compel them to evacuate on the arrival of the troops, and will most probably be the means of getting all quietly arranged by fulfilling the promise of the father, and apologizing for their conduct.

From spies I have in the town, I learned last night that all is in a dreadful state



of confusion. Sultan M. Houssain, Sultan Hamed, Syed Houssain, Syed West, are for fulfilling the bond; but the Bedouins, who have now a harvest by being fed and paid at Sultan Hamed's expense, are in no hurry, and feel disposed to remain, or at least retain possession until the arrival of the troops, when I firmly believe they will plunder the town and evacuate it.

Sultan M. Houssain has no power; all appears vested in the hands of his son Hamed, who has the Bedouins at his command, and they evidently have a will of their own at times.

The political state of the country surrounding the Abdalee territory remains quiet with one exception; the Houshibees, their north-western neighbours, are at war with them, originating in an endeavour to enforce an increased annual payment; such hostility, however, is never very bloody, the loss of a few camels, bullocks, and sheep, and perhaps one or two individuals may lose blood in the year.

The Futhlees have just made peace with the Abdalees for six months; and until that period expires they will have no trouble from their Eastern neighbours. At the termination of peace, it is most probable they will, if the Abdalees still remain in difficulty with us, enforce an increase to the annual tribute.

They have endeavoured to obtain the assistance of their south-western neighbours, the Haggrabees, who have however firmly and resolutely determined not to offer them the slightest aid, having no quarrel with the English.

To make them feel our power prior to the arrival of the troops, and to bring them to their senses, I would further respectfully suggest, that I be authorized to stop all communication with the interior, which, from knowing the place well, I feel confident can be done by a long gun on one of the eastern islands, or by a well manned boat with a gun. This arrangement, with the two blockade vessels, will prevent their receiving supplies either by sea or land, and be a return for their civility to the sloop of war, Coote.

As the Coote's quitting this harbour for wood and water would have a very injurious effect, by doing away with the fear and excitement her presence creates, I wrote to the commander of the Company's steam vessel to supply her with what water she could spare without detention, and will exert every means in my power to prevent the necessity of her leaving this station.

In conclusion, I trust I am not presuming in strongly recommending that a very severely penned letter be forwarded to the Sultan from Government, as soon as possible after the receipt of this, pointing out that the blockade is to be strictly preserved for their breach of promise, and numerous insults to the British, commencing from the wreck of the Doria Dowlut, and disgraceful treatment of the crew and passengers; their attempted seizure of my person and papers; their refusing supplies to the Government ship of war Coote; the insulting and threatening message of Sultan Hamed to their accredited agent; and their refusing to permit the restored British property to leave the town when the agent was directed to forward it. My reason for mentioning this is, that owing to the letter with which I was favoured by the Governor in Council being mild, and merely mentioning that I was the deputed person to conclude the transfer, it has occasioned great doubts among the chieftains if I am authorized by my Government in writing severely to them; in fact, they believe that I am angry at their transactions, and not the Government who sent me.

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— No. 62. —

Captain *Haines* to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

No. 62.

Captain *Haines*  
to the Secretary  
to the Bombay  
Government,  
7 November 1838.

Sir,

7 November 1838.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, for the information of the Governor in Council, that owing to a long passage, I deemed it advisable to request Commander Denton, of the Company's sloop of war Coote, to put into Maculla to complete with wood and water, which has proved most advantageous to the public service.

We arrived at Maculla on the 18th of October, and left it complete with supplies on the 21st, from thence we carried a fair wind to Aden, arriving there on the 24th.

On our passage we fortunately met with the steam-ship *Berenice*, on her return to Bombay, from which vessel I obtained a Mocha-man, whom I employed as messenger



messenger frequently when last at Aden. By this man, when we anchored at Aden, I wrote to the agent Damjee to meet me at the ship as early as possible, but receiving no answer, and understanding from the messenger that Sultan Hamed (the eldest son) had arrived with about 150 well-armed Bedouins, and that in consequence the town was in alarm, I wrote a letter to Sultan M. Houssain ben Fudthel, enclosing it with a polite note to the Ameer of the town, Alee ben Abdulla, to be forwarded immediately. On the messenger making his appearance, he was detained at the gate for some time, and then escorted by 15 armed Bedouins to the presence of Hamed, who questioned him as to the ship and her numerical strength in men; the messenger afterwards returned, bringing me a message from the Ameer, saying the letter should be immediately forwarded to his master; he also informed me, from private information, that any supplies for the ship were stopped, and the town's people were prohibited from visiting the vessel.

On the 26th, the agent Damjee and Reshid ben Abdulla were sent to me, principally to observe our strength, and to inform me we should never have the place. I instructed them to inform Hamed that I had written to his father, and until he received the authority under his father's seal, making him his agent, I could not listen to him; that I advised him not to act rashly, but to consider on previous promises and their bond, and the final consequences of repeated insults, I also requested the agent to send the property I recovered from the wrecked ship Doria Dowlut to me, for it was my intention to send it to Mocha by one of the first bugalahs. In return, they informed me that Sultan Hamed not only refused to let me have it, but refused to pay the money when the bond became payable: I then clearly stated, for the information of this hasty chief, that it was most probable a sufficient British force would arrive to bring them to their senses.

On the 27th, to obtain in writing a refusal to supply us with wood and supplies, I sent a messenger with money and a note, requesting to be supplied, to which I received a refusal in writing. I wrote a mild letter, pointing out that such conduct amounted to a declaration of war, and that the British Government would be highly incensed at it, and also advised them to consider that we had command of the sea, and that enabled us to cut off all supplies between Aden and the interior.

On the 28th I wrote a duplicate of my letter to Sultan M. Houssain, also one of Sultan Hamed's, to be forwarded through the Haggrabee tribe to the old Sultan at Lahedge, having determined not to answer his son's letters until power was vested in him by his father to correspond as an agent.

This conduct and evident firmness intimidated them, and on the 30th agents from the Sultan arrived, being the son Hamed, son-in-law Syed M. Houssain, Syed West, and the Kazee of Lahedge. They forwarded me a letter from the old Sultan, who was confined to his bed by age and indisposition, also a letter from the son Hamed, to which I returned an answer.

On the 31st of October I received a letter from Hamed, and returned him an answer, with the Government letter, and a rough copy of the treaty.

On the 1st of November I wrote a letter to Commander Denton to stop provisions going into the town.

I did not receive an answer to my letter of the 31st of October until the 4th of November, when a letter from Sultan Hamed, and a letter in a green cover, without a direction, said to be from Sultan M. Houssain, who wished me to take it to Bombay, was brought in. Having read Sultan Hamed's letter, I took the liberty of opening the letter to Government, which, as I expected, was a repetition of nonsense, and not at all to the point. I therefore wrote the son Hamed a letter.

On the 6th, I learned from a boat sent me by a merchant in the town, that the Arab who brought the letter had told only falsehoods on his return from the ship, particularly in stating that I had spit upon the Sultan's letter and tore it up, and that we were preparing to take the place. To erase feelings that such falsehoods might create, I wrote a letter to Sultan Hamed. The man who brought me the letter, came on board on Sunday, just as Divine service was about being performed, and afterwards witnessed the muster of the seamen, marines, and soldiers of the European regiment in clean clothes. The sight of so many men being on board, and called aft, where the articles of war were read, no doubt impressed him with the belief that something was about to take place.



In answer, Sultan Hamed sent me a letter, also a letter from his father, Sultan M. Houssain, to each of which I sent answers.

I have, &c.

*S. B. Haines.*

— No. 63. —

No. 63.  
Captain Haines to  
the Sultan of Aden,  
24 October 1838.

Captain *Haines* to the Sultan of Aden.

24 October 1838.

WITH every customary compliment, and trusting the letter may reach you in good health.

I have to inform you that the Government of Bombay have been pleased to depute me to complete the arrangements for the transfer of the land and harbours of Aden, as previously agreed upon between us in the month of January last.

To prevent delay and unnecessary correspondence, I beg you will at your earliest convenience either meet me, or appoint some one to do so, vested with power to complete our arrangements as to the amount of the annual sum to be given by the British for the transfer of the lands and harbours of Aden; and in thus making my wishes known, I need scarcely remark to one of your age, experience, and ability, that a speedy conclusion of the whole, and an earnest anxiety evinced on your part to perform the promise made, will most materially tend to convince the British Government that no insult was intended them in January, when a seizure of the person of their accredited agent was attempted; and further, that such disgraceful intention was unknown to you, but was contemplated and attempted by others without your connivance or authority.

And now let me advise you, as a friend, (for I bear no malice,) to at once come straight forward and conclude this affair; for remember (as I had previously informed you) the English adhere to their word, and never break faith, and it is not probable you will gain any advantage by procrastination or lengthened correspondence; and let me further advise you, not to attend to the wishes of men who have not your interest at heart, but act for yourself; let honesty, truth, and sincerity guide you, and you will soon see the benefit of so doing, for the arrangement already agreed upon will most materially benefit your family and State.

I am now on board the Government ship of war *Coote*, and shall be delighted to meet either yourself or any person you may depute, to conclude with me for the amount to be given annually by the British to your State for the land of Aden and its harbours, which was previously arranged, but not signed and concluded: the bond for the transfer I have by me. But again permit me to impress on your mind, that in deputing any person to conclude with me, that the person so sent must be invested with authority for such performance, under your seal and signature.

I wrote to the agent *Damjee*, on arrival, requesting him to meet me at the ship; but the messenger returned without an answer, and with the information that no one was permitted to do so. Conceiving our agent must be detained by mistake or an error in judgment, on the part of your ameer, *Alee ben Abdulla*, I have to request you will be pleased to issue such orders that he may be permitted to come unmolested whenever required.

I leave it to your own heart, after perusing this letter, to judge if the British Government are not actuated by the kindest and noblest motives in wishing to be on terms of friendship and peace.

I shall feel obliged for an early answer.

*S. B. Haines.*

— No. 64. —

No. 64.  
Sultan Hamed to  
Captain Haines.

Sultan *Hamed* to Captain *Haines*.

Received 26 October.

May God bless you! You must know that your letter to *Alee Abdulla* has been received, and I understand it. It is my duty, and you had better take care; at this time Sultan *Mahomed Houssain* is not over my head, nor are his answers



answers. If you remain quiet, I will be upon your head; I am above you, and above my father. If you come to the gate, I will permit you to enter, and there be upon your head. This is the language of the Bedouins: Sultan Hamed is our Sultan, and we are his servant: if Hamed orders us, we will perform, and come suddenly upon you.

*Sultan Hamed.*

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— No. 65. —

The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

No. 65.  
The Sultan of Aden  
to Captain Haines.

With customary compliments.

YOUR letter reached me, and I understand it. My feet are bad, and I cannot rise off my bed. My agents in this affair are Hamed (who is with you), and others I now send; and I pray of you, settle this affair, so that it will be advantageous to both countries.

(Seal of the Sultan.)

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— No. 66. —

Sultan *Hamed* to Captain *Haines*.

No. 66.  
Sultan Hamed to  
Captain Haines.

With compliments.

GOD bless and preserve you! You must know that a letter has reached us from my father, Sultan M. Houssain, for you, which I now send. You informed us you were sent by Government, and he has now sent his agents and letter, and by his directions I act.

*Hamed M. Houssain.*

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— No. 67. —

Captain *Haines* to Sultan *Hamed*.

No. 67.  
Captain Haines to  
Sultan Hamed.

With compliments.

I RECEIVED your note of to-day, with its inclosure from your father, Sultan M. Houssain, which informs me he has authorized yourself and others to meet me, to conclude the transfer. I shall be most happy to receive you all, and will treat you with all honour and hospitality; at the same time, I beg to inform you, that should you be disposed to send the others, and not come yourself, you will give them authority under your seal to conclude with me, and to specify the name of each individual who comes thus accredited.

You will observe I have not noticed your former note, for I feel assured when you wrote it your feelings were exasperated; and knowing that you had seen but little of the world, and were not well acquainted with the British, I determined to take no notice of so uncourteous an ebullition of temper, feeling confident that when you are better capable of estimating the British character, you will respect it more.

In conclusion, I trust and hope that the meeting will terminate the business, and unite your family and tribe in the closest ties of friendship with the British.

I send my best compliments to yourself and the agents of the Sultan.

*S. B. Haines.*

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— No. 68. —

Sultan *Hamed* to Captain *Haines*.

No. 68.  
Sultan Hamed to  
Captain Haines.

AFTER your letter reached me, and I understood its contents, you wrote in the letter to my father to either come himself, or depute agents under his seal, and that you possess the seal of your Government; we brought our sealed authority,



authority, and you have written you have one similar. We sent Abdulla to you yesterday, and he brought us your letter. I know it is your wish to meet us; you say, "Come to me, or send your agent;" we sent Abdulla, and why did not you give him the authority of your Government? I do not know what is in your heart. If it is your pleasure we should meet, when shall it be? and if you wish an agent, mention whom you wish to meet you; we are willing to send any one.

*Hamed M. Houssain Fudthel.*

— No. 69. —

No. 69.  
Captain Haines  
to Sultan Hamed,  
31 October 1838.

Captain *Haines* to Sultan *Hamed*.

With every customary compliment.

31 October 1838.

I RECEIVED your letter, and understand it. It was my intention to have brought forward my power and authority from Government when we met; but as you have expressed a wish for it, I now send it. You will observe that the British Government have given me power to conclude the transfer; and I inform you that the delay which has already taken place, will, if not soon rectified, be injurious to your family and self.

My orders are positive and decisive; and your conduct since the arrival of the vessel has not been friendly. You should consider that the British, who are powerful both by sea and land, have the bond of your father for the land and harbour of Aden, and that bond must be fulfilled; but remember that the British, though strong, are merciful, and do not oppress; and to convince you of the truth of what I assert, I send you a copy of the treaty of transfer to which I require your signature. You will observe you are not only to receive 8,000 dollars, but other advantages; study it, and delay not; partake of the fruit while ripe, or it will become useless.

Further, let me call to your mind how deeply and repeatedly you have insulted us, in the first case regarding a British ship, afterwards in attempting the seizure of the British agent, and lastly your conduct since my arrival. Our injuries, unless immediate friendship is made, will demand satisfaction; and chastisement you must well know will soon follow; most probably, sufficient troops will soon arrive, when it will be too late for you to repent, and the transfer will then be settled our own way.

I waited on your tribe, when I first arrived, as the British agent; it is now your turn to repay the compliment to the British. I have no choice of agents; send one, two, three or four, according to your pleasure; but let them have power to conclude, for I am not come to play; and be assured, that whoever does come, shall be honoured and respected. With compliments to all.

*S. B. Haines.*

— No. 70. —

No. 70.  
Sultan Hamed to  
Captain Haines.

Sultan *Hamed* to Captain *Haines*.

ALL is well in Aden. To-day my father Sultan M. Houssain's letter reached me, also one for the Government in answer to their letter. He has directed me to send to you, to take it to Bombay. I now send it by Abdulla, in obedience to my father. The English and ourselves are one, and have been so for years. I am so also, and God grant it is so.

*Hamed M. Houssain.*

— No. 71. —

No. 71.  
Captain Haines to  
Sultan Hamed,  
4 November 1838.

Captain *Haines* to Sultan *Hamed*.

4 November 1838.

WITH every compliment. I received your letter, also your father's, both of which I have perused; for being sent here by the Government as their agent, to conclude the transfer, and knowing they required no other reference, I have examined



examined your father's answer, which, as I anticipated, was only a repetition, and contained nothing to the point. Therefore, I have only again to repeat, that delay in fulfilling the bond of transfer will be injurious to you. The land of Aden, as far as the northern side of Khore Mucksa, is British ground; and if the money is not immediately arranged, and troops arrive, I am instructed to inform you that the British Government will not then give you one mensurie.

I have already prepared some letters for Bombay; and I candidly inform you that I have, owing to your late conduct, applied for another vessel, to be sent as soon as possible, to prevent trade in Bunder, Seerah, and Duras taking place, and the troops will most probably soon follow.

Take my advice ere it be too late, and perform your father's bond, so that peace and lasting friendship may exist between the British and yourselves.

*S. B. Haines.*

— No. 72. —

Captain *Haines* to Sultan *Hamed*.

6 November 1838.

WITH compliments. Being aware of all the reports that Abdulla gave you on his return from the ship, and considering that falsehood is injurious to both parties, and knowing his representations were untrue, particularly that relative to your father's letter having been torn up and insulted, I have to request you do not believe one word he said, for I have the letter now by me for your perusal, if you wish it; and the muster he observed, is usual with a vessel of war every Sunday; further, the salute of 21 guns, and the flags at the mast-head, were to commemorate the memory of a particular day with the British, and not any demonstration of war. Permit me to recommend a little chastisement to the man who told such falsehoods.

The steamer for Bombay has not yet arrived, and her coming here is not for war, but to convey intelligence of all that has taken place to the Government. Your father wrote me he had sent agents to meet. Why have they not met me to arrange the transfer?

If you send another messenger to me, send one who will convey truth only.

With compliments.

*S. B. Haines.*

— No. 73. —

Sultan *Hamed* to Captain *Haines*.

Shah Shaban, 6 November 1838.

WITH the usual compliments. Your letter reached me, and I understood it. I wish much to be friends, and that friendship was between us. We are not angry; on the contrary, shall be delighted to be friends; but you came not as a friend, or in that way that your Government and ourselves should be friends. We require character, and so do you. You write to us that you require the land of Aden; this language for our character is not good. If you are well willing to have new friendship between us, so that our national characters be both preserved, keep kind feelings in your heart, and our friendship will yet be greater, nay, stronger, than a brother's.

If it is in your heart to forget the past, we will send five agents to meet five of you, and all matters can be explained, by God's will and peace. We have no wish for treachery. With salaams: Syed M. Houssain sends his salaam to you.

*Hamed M. Houssain Fudthel, Abdalee.*

I inform you that you must not speak or write about the land of Aden again.

No. 72.  
Captain Haines  
to Sultan Hamed,  
6 November 1838.

No. 73.  
Sultan Hamed  
to Captain Haines,  
6 November 1838.



## — No. 74. —

No. 74.  
The Sultan of Aden  
to Captain Haines,  
4 November 1838.

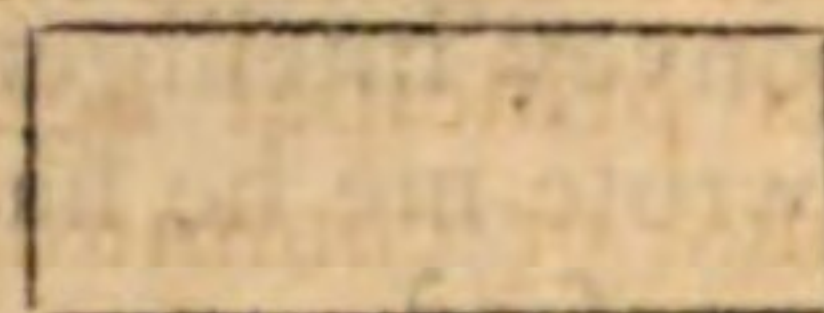
The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

4 November 1838.

WITH compliments. You must know I have received your letter, also one from my son Hamed. You have written to say you want Aden, and the land as far north as Khore Muksa. You told him you possess my seal. Any man of sense would not talk that way; an Englishman would never talk so. You wrote to Hamed that we were playing; we are not men to play either with Government or yourself; nor should you play with us. You came last year and brought a letter from Government about the ship. I asked you if you wished the money in justice, or by force. I told you to let the Kaze, merchants, and nakhooda decide on my innocence, but you would not listen to it. I then told you I would give an answer to Government, when you said, in the presence of several, that you were the Government, or represented them. I gave you character and honour on account of Government. From us you received no injury. All this was on account of Government. You left us with great honour and character, on account of past friendship. You have now come, and brought a letter from Government, which is good; and in return I gave you a letter for Government. Your letters are not proper. If you are sent as the superior to Aden, your language is not pleasant. Your language is not the Government style of language, but your own; but if you use other than such displeasing language, send it me.

If you have a letter, saying the Government authorized you to say so, we will receive it, and bow to it: but if you come to enforce a thing, we must have the Government authority, so that we may know it by seal. I have nothing more to say. If you have other language, we will hear you; but if you accuse us, every one will say you are a bad man. Do not forget this; nor can we give the country without a Government authority. Whatever is in your heart let me hear it.

Seal and signature of



Sultan *M. Houssain ben Fudthel*.

## — No. 75. —

No. 75.  
Captain Haines to  
the Sultan of Aden.

Captain *Haines* to the Sultan of Aden.

WITH the customary compliments. Your letter reached me, and I understood it. You have acknowledged the receipt of the Government authority, deputing me to finally settle the annual sum to be given for the transfer of the land and harbours of Aden, which I received under your seal in January last. You now require further authority. Pray what can you require more from the British Government than their seal, deputing me to conclude the transfer? The fact is, you wish delay, and are not disposed to treat either their agents or ships with civility; nay, you have insulted the British ten-fold. I have already informed your agents that if the place is not quietly transferred, agreeable to promise, and the Government send troops up to take possession, you will not then receive one mensurie.

You have shown no disposition to be on good terms: on the contrary, your agents have not met me. You have insulted the Government, by refusing their vessels of war supplies. Your son Hamed wrote me an insulting, threatening letter, immediately we arrived. The British property that was restored to me in January, has been refused to me, information of which, with your letter, and the letter from your son, I am now about sending to Bombay, for the information of Government, who will, no doubt, look to your family and country for such disrespect, combined with your previous insults.

If you wish to be friends with the British, and to ensure a provision for your family, perform the bond immediately, and past transgressions will, I dare say, be forgiven by Government. You write of the British Government as if you were speaking



speaking of some petty sheikdom. Undeceive yourself; they are powerful, and will not be trifled with. Let me ask you if you would play with a lion as with a cat? The latter may scratch, and cause irritation; but the former wounds severely. Take then my advice; be friends while you have the opportunity; perform your promise quickly, and all will be well.

With compliments.

*S. B. Haines.*

— No. 76. —

Captain *Haines* to Sultan *Hamed*.

7 November 1838.

WITH compliments. I was sent by the British Government to arrange and conclude for the sum to be paid for the transfer of the land and harbours of Aden, which I possess under your father's bond; and as you say in your letter you require no further conversation or writing on that subject, I have only to say that all which has transpired between us, shall be sent to Government. In the meantime I await their orders, which will arrive in a short time.

With compliments.

*S. B. Haines.*

— No. 77. —

Captain *Haines* to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

(Extract.)

7 November 1838.

THE letters last received from Sultan M. Houssain and his son *Hamed*, whom he appointed his principal agent, are so directly to the point that they wish to hold no conference or communication with me on the subject of the transfer of Aden to the British, that there is no use my commenting on them further than remarking I feel confident nothing but a strong letter from Government, demanding it, and a force to convince them of their intention to occupy it, will ever bring them to their senses; for, at present, the father is imbecile, and must learn all that passes from the surrounding Bedouins, and his son *Hamed* is an ignorant young man who has scarcely ever moved 20 miles from Lahedge, and comprehends but little of the strength or consequence of any Power, except those immediately surrounding his own territory.

That they are aware I am the accredited agent of Government to conclude the transfer, there is no doubt; their intention is therefore only to delay, and evade, if possible, its performance until Government may give up all idea of the place, similar to Socotra, which they know and speak of. They forget the numerous insults that have been offered, and look upon them as mere trifles.

It is not improbable the large bugalah called *Burruk*, belonging to the Sultan, may arrive (laden with rice and flat plank) soon after the next orders I receive from Government, should they be pleased to send a vessel agreeable to my recommendation; in which case, may I request to know if I may direct her to be seized, and kept until restitution of the restored property be made, and the land delivered to the British?

— No. 78. —

Captain *Haines* to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

Sir,

Aden Harbour, 13 November 1838.

THE steamer not having yet made her appearance, I am enabled to afford you some important information.

On the 8th, at 6 A.M., we observed a fishing-boat with a flag pulling towards us. The principal man in the boat proved a fisherman I employed when sur-

No. 76.

Captain *Haines* to  
Sultan *Hamed*,  
7 November 1838.

No. 77.

Captain *Haines* to  
the Secretary  
to the Bombay  
Government,  
7 November 1838.

No. 78.

Captain *Haines* to  
the Secretary  
to the Bombay  
Government,  
13 November 1838.



veying the rocks off Shugra, having three letters from that port, two of which were for the interpreter, and one for me, from the Sultan of the Futhalees, Hamed ben Abdulla, translations of which, with my answer, I have the honour to inclose.

The bearer of the letters was instructed to inform me he was placed under my orders, and that the Sultan would attend to any order I thought proper to send him, and that the Futhalee tribe were ready at my call in an hour. I sent them back with a small present, also one for the Sultan, with a request he would permit his people to supply us with water, wood, &c.

A description of the Futhalee tribe and country will be found in the memoir of this part of the coast that I did myself the honour of forwarding to Government before I left Bombay; and it is my firm belief that one word from Sultan Hamed Abdulla, their chieftain, would bring the Abdalee tribe to their senses, for he is both dreaded and respected by them.

As it would be advantageous, when Aden is ours, to be on friendly terms with this powerful chieftain, I take the liberty of suggesting that a letter from Government, thanking him for his civility, would be considered a great honour.

On the 10th November, a party came from Aden to wait on me, consisting of the Ameer Alee ben Abdulla, four Bedouins, and a Banian. The interpreter, meeting them on the beach, wished them to come to the ship, but they declined, and produced a note to my address from Sultan Hamed. The note informed me he had sent these men to converse with me, but they were not to enter upon the subject of the transfer of Aden.

Having determined not to meet men who were not regularly constituted agents to conclude the transfer, and more particularly not those of the description sent, I directed the interpreter to return (with Lieutenants Hamilton and Western as witnesses), and inform them I should be happy to see the Sultan, or the persons deputed by him; also to learn through him why they were sent.

I expected what they came for, and had previously instructed the officers what answers to make; and I was correct in my conclusion. They came to offer wood, water, and supplies, and to be on the same terms we were. My answer was, that I declined accepting either, after such apparent hostility, until the opinion of Government was received; but that I was willing to arrange all matters, if they made an immediate transfer of Aden, and I would, in such case, solicit the forgiveness of the British Government for their past errors. The Bedouins, in reply, said they would not be looked upon as warriors if they gave it up without a gun being fired, and that the promise of Sultan M. Houssain was nonsense; he was an old man, and in their power. Thus ended the short interview.

The Banian informed us the Futhalees and Abdalees had quarrelled yesterday, and that the Sultan of the former was expected to march upon the territory of the latter in a few days. To this circumstance, and their knowing I was acquainted with, and had received a letter from, the Futhalee Sultan, I attribute their friendly intentions.

The steamer Hugh Lindsay arrived this morning, and immediately proceeded on her voyage.

The steam-ship Atalanta arrived at 2 h. 30 m. P.M., and I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 299, Secret Department. The information required will, I trust, be fully contained in my letters Nos. 1, 2, and 3, with the letters referred to therein.

Sheik Tyeb, the late agent at Mocha, has just arrived in the Atalanta. I will endeavour, if opportunity offers, to open an advantageous communication with him.

We have now working parties on shore digging three wells, and I have offered a reward if fresh water be obtained, to encourage their exertions.

In conclusion, I take the liberty of urging the necessity of some Europeans being sent, for I feel confident they command more respect than Native troops.

I have, &c.

S. B. Haines.



## — No. 79. —

The Sultan of Aden to the Governor of Bombay.

(Extract.)

2 October 1838, received 26 November.

COMMANDER HAINES made his appearance at this place, and contemplated to force it away from my hands. I showed him all the papers that are in my possession, addressed by the British Government, whether in English or Arabic; without, however, showing any regard to these documents, he intended to take my land unjustly. I told him that this could not be done, as a man would rather be burnt than surrender his right.

I also remarked that Government would not like to deprive one of his possessions. He then quitted the place, and I pray he will reach his destination in safety. I deliver the letter in charge of Captain Haines, and Jaffer, and wait a reply. I sent you a letter before, *via* Muscat. This is the third communication that I have written on the subject. I have related these circumstances in order that your Honor may be apprized of what passed between me and Commander Haines.

No. 79.

The Sultan of Aden  
to the Government  
of Bombay,  
2 October 1838.

## — No. 80. —

The Secretary to the Bombay Government to Captain Haines.

Sir,

Bombay, 28 November 1838.

I AM directed by the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches noted in the margin, reporting the present state of affairs at Aden; and to transmit, for your information, copy of a letter from the Superintendent of the Indian Navy, dated the 28th instant, and of its inclosure, and of the reply thereto of this date, accepting the tender of the ship Anne Crichton, for the purpose of forthwith dispatching her to Aden with coals for the use of the steamers in the Red Sea, and for carrying provisions and water for the use of the sloop of war, Coote.

I am further desired to inform you, that two eight and a half inch howitzers, with their complement of artillerymen, will be embarked on board the Anne Crichton, to be placed at your disposal on their arrival at Aden, to be used in the defence of that vessel while she may lie at Aden, or otherwise, as you may think best, and are to be considered as part of the detachment applied for by you.

The further measures suggested by you are now engaging the consideration of Government.

I have, &amp;c.

J. P. Willoughby.

No. 80.

The Secretary  
to the Bombay  
Government to  
Captain Haines,  
28 November 1838.

6 Nov. 1838.

7 Nov. 1838, No. 1.

7 Nov. 1838, No. 2.

13 Nov. 1838, No. 3.

## — No. 81. —

The Governor of Bombay to the Sultan of Aden.

1 December 1838.

AFTER compliments. It has occasioned me the deepest pain and regret to learn from dispatches recently received from Captain Haines, the agent deputed by me to conclude the engagement voluntarily entered into by you in the month of January last, for the transfer, in consideration of an annual pecuniary payment, of the land and harbour of Aden to the British Government, that you have not only declined to ratify that engagement, but that the accredited agent of my Government has been treated with the greatest disrespect, and that even supplies of water and provisions have been refused to the Company's ship of war, Coote, the vessel on which that agent proceeded to Aden.

You must be aware that the British Government can never permit the cruel treatment experienced by the unfortunate crew and passengers of the Doria Dowlut, when wrecked off the port of Aden in the month of February 1837, to pass with impunity. In consideration of the friendship which had heretofore existed between the British Government and yourself, and in consequence of your

No. 81.

The Governor of  
Bombay to the  
Sultan of Aden.



denial of any participation in the disgraceful scenes and gross outrages which occurred on the above occasion, I was induced to refrain from taking such serious notice of the case.

*J. Farish.*

— No. 82. —

No. 82.  
The Secretary  
to the Bombay  
Government to  
Captain Haines,  
2 December 1838.

The Secretary to the Bombay Government to Captain *Haines*.

Sir,

2 December 1838.

WITH reference to the last paragraph of my letter, dated the 28th ultimo, I am now directed by the Governor in Council to communicate to you the following resolutions and instructions of Government regarding the measures to be adopted for enforcing a settlement of our just demands from the Sultan of Aden:

6 Nov. 1838,  
7 Nov. 1838, No. 1.  
7 Nov. 1838, No. 2.  
13 Nov. 1838, No. 3.

In consequence of the statements contained in your letters noted in the margin, relative to the highly improper and treacherous conduct of the Sultan and the authorities at Aden, a letter has been addressed to his Excellency the Naval Commander-in-chief of India, requesting him to aid this Government with such naval force as may be in his power, to co-operate with Government in the measures determined on for the occupation of Aden.

Her Majesty's ships *Volage* and *Cruizer* are now engaged on important duty at the mouths of the Indus, and Captain Smith, the officer in command of those vessels, has been requested to cause one or both of them to repair to Bombay as soon as their present services are concluded, preparatory to proceeding to Aden.

With reference to the seventh paragraph of your letter, dated the 6th ultimo, I am desired to inform you that instructions have been issued for sending as early as possible the following force to occupy Aden; namely,

|                   | Rank and File. |   |   |   |   |     |
|-------------------|----------------|---|---|---|---|-----|
| European Infantry | -              | - | - | - | - | 300 |
| Artillery         | -              | - | - | - | - | 40  |
| Native Infantry   | -              | - | - | - | - | 350 |
| Golundauze        | -              | - | - | - | - | 60  |

and a party of sappers and miners, or pioneers, with an ample supply of tools.

This force is to be inclusive of the escort already on board the *Coote*, and the artillery ordered to proceed in the ship *Anne Crichton*.

The Superintendent of the Indian Navy has been called upon to state his opinion as to the best mode of meeting the requisition for naval force to the extent recommended in the sixth paragraph of your letter to the address of that officer, dated the 22d August last, taking into consideration the vessels already at Aden.

The Superintendent has been further informed that it is highly important that a large supply of water should be sent to Aden in the vessels in which the troops are embarked, and that in the event of their having a long passage to that port, they should put into Maculla to take in a fresh supply.

Should any space be left on board the vessels proceeding to Aden, it is the intention of Government to send in them such number of artificers, and quantity of building materials as can be received on board.

Orders have been issued to forward by the above opportunity a full supply of ordnance stores, ammunition, and provisions for the use of the expedition.

With reference to the second paragraph of your letter, No. 2, dated the 7th ultimo, I am desired to inform you that the necessary orders have been issued for sending to Aden the European assistants from the engineer corps, applied for to assist Lieutenant Western. That officer's report and the plans submitted by him, relative to the construction of buildings for coal, &c., are engaging the consideration of Government.

The Governor in Council does not deem it expedient to adopt the measure adverted to in the 26th paragraph of your letter, dated the 6th ultimo, until the arrival of the force at Aden, and particularly because it is of the utmost importance that, while a force is sent sufficient to take forcible possession of that place in case of continued opposition to the views of the British Government, every effort



effort should be used for its peaceable surrender, a result very liable to be endangered, or even totally prevented, by the forcible interception of communication with the small force now at your command.

The Governor in Council considers the importance of obtaining a footing at Aden peaceably, or at all events without loss of life, to be incalculably great in regard to the feeling with which its after occupation by the British Government would be viewed, independently of all other weighty considerations, and that this object should never be lost sight of.

Your recommendation in favour of the 30 men of the Bombay European regiment, now serving on board the sloop of war, Coote, relative to their allowances, is under consideration.

Should circumstances render it desirable that you should communicate with the officer commanding the force, before they come in sight of Aden, the schooner, Mahé, which carries this dispatch, will be useful for that purpose.

With reference to the allusion made in your former communications, relative to the necessity of vessels of war remaining at Aden, until such time as the troops are secure, I am desired to observe, that under whatever circumstances possession of Aden may be obtained, the force must be on their guard against treachery; the Governor in Council is therefore pleased to authorize your retaining a sufficient naval force at Aden, until a perfectly secure and commanding position sufficient for the location of the troops, and for obtaining water and access to the shipping, can be effectually fortified against surprise. It would further appear desirable that for some time afterwards a cruizer or vessel of war should be stationed in the Bay.

I am also desired to draw your attention to the importance of obtaining hostages, should circumstances render such a measure practicable, as one of precaution.

Adverting to the proposition contained in your letter, dated the 22d August last, as to the number of guns, &c., required for the permanent occupation of Aden, I am desired to inform you that any orders regarding them, and the ammunition and stores for them, are left for your further suggestions in the future progress of the present service.

Agreeably to your suggestion a strong letter of remonstrance has been addressed to the Sultan of Aden, by the Governor, on the subject of his improper and treacherous behaviour, which is herewith inclosed for delivery to the chief, accompanied with an English version for your information.

A letter is also herewith sent to the address of Sultan Hamed Abdulla, the chief of the Futhellee tribe, thanking him for the civility he has shown to you.

I have, &c.

*J. P. Willoughby.*

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— No. 83. —

The Secretary to the Bombay Government to Captain *Smith*, of H. M. S. Volage.

Sir,

11 December 1838.

I AM directed by the Governor in Council to inform you, that, under circumstances detailed in the accompanying copy of instructions to the Political Agent of this Government, Commander Haines, of the Indian Navy, dated the 2d instant, and in the further copy of a letter, dated the 1st instant, which has been written to the Sultan of Aden, a military force, as per margin, has been ordered to be in readiness to embark against that place, and that it is considered absolutely necessary that it should be supported by a naval force. I have, therefore, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, and to request you will afford the aid of Her Majesty's ships Volage and Cruizer, to accomplish the objects of Government.

The transport in which the troops are to be embarked will be placed under your orders; but I am directed to observe, that it would be gratifying to Government if

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Her

No. 83.

The Secretary to the Bombay Government to Captain Smith, 11 December 1838.

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Rank and File.  
European Infantry 300  
Artillery - - 40  
Native Infantry - 350  
Golundauze - 60  
and a party of sappers and miners, or pioneers.



Her Majesty's vessels could carry up to Aden some of the Europeans ordered on this service, provided it can be done conveniently.

The negotiations have been entrusted, as before observed, to Commander Haines, as Political Agent; that officer is now at Aden, on board the sloop-of-war Coote, commanded by Commander Denton, which vessel will be under your orders while in company on the present service.

It is a point of the first importance, in regard to the footing on which we may afterwards hold Aden, that the object of the negotiation should, if possible, be accomplished without attacking the place; and on the arrival of the force, it will be the duty of the Political Agent to renew his endeavours to obtain the fulfilment of the engagements previously entered into by the authorities of Aden.

Should he find that his endeavours are unavailing, he will communicate the same to you, and I am directed to request that you will thereon, in co-operation with the officer commanding the military force, adopt such measures for the capture and occupation of Aden, or otherwise, as to you both may appear best calculated to effect the objects which the Political Agent may point out.

I have, &c.

*J. P. Willoughby.*

No. 84.

Captain Smith to  
the Secretary to the  
Bombay Govern-  
ment, 14 Dec. 1838.

— No. 84. —

Captain *Smith* to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

Sir,

14 December 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, together with the inclosures, and I have to inform you, that as the Government deem it absolutely necessary that the expedition that is getting in readiness for Aden, should be supported by a naval force, Her Majesty's vessels under my orders will be in readiness to proceed to that place whenever they are required.

With respect to receiving troops on board these vessels, I shall be most happy to meet the wishes of the Government, by taking on board as many as can be accommodated without impairing the efficiency of the ships; but as there is a great difficulty in procuring provisions here, it will be quite necessary that they should be supplied from the Commissariat with salt pork, as the quantity of that article on board the ships is barely sufficient for the use of the crews, for two months.

I have, &c.

*J. H. Smith.*

No. 85.

*J. P. Willoughby*,  
Esq. to Captain  
*Haines*,  
21 December 1838.

— No. 85. —

*J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., to Captain *Haines*.

Sir,

Bombay Castle, 21 December 1838.

WITH reference to the fourth paragraph of my letter, dated the 2d instant, No. 505, informing you of the intention of Government to send a force to Aden, for the purpose of supporting the negotiations with which you have been entrusted, and the ultimate occupation of that place, I am directed by the Governor in Council to acquaint you, that the following troops, in addition to those already on board the sloop of war Coote, and transport ship Anne Crichton, have been ordered to hold themselves in immediate readiness for proceeding on that service, viz.

286 rank and file of the Bombay European regiment, with a full complement of commissioned and non-commissioned officers and followers.

22 rank and file European artillery, in addition to the 18 who have been sent off in the transport ship Anne Crichton.

350 rank and file of the 24th regiment, I. N.

60 Golundauze, and a party of pioneers, no sappers and miners being available.

The commandant of artillery has been instructed to cause 10 garrison guns to be sent to Aden, of such description as may appear to that officer best adapted for the defence of Aden, on our obtaining possession of that place. A report should hereafter be made by the engineer and artillery officers in conjunction, as to what further



further supply of guns, for this service, may be required; the temporary wants, in case of emergency, being supplied by the Company's sloop of war at Aden.

Adverting to the third paragraph of my letter, dated 2d instant, I am directed to inform you that Captain Smith, in charge of Her Majesty's ships Volage and Cruizer, has complied with the request for the aid of those vessels to enable Government to carry the necessary measures into effect for the occupation of Aden.

Captain Smith has been informed, as per copy of my letter to him of the 11th instant, inclosed, that the transports to be employed on this service will be placed under his orders, as also the sloop of war Coote, while employed on the present duty.

It has been impressed upon Captain Smith, that it is a point of the first importance, in regard to the footing on which the British Government may afterwards hold Aden, that the objects of the negotiation should, if possible, be accomplished without attacking the place; and that officer has been informed, that on the arrival of the force at Aden, it will be your duty to renew your endeavours to obtain the fulfilment of the engagements previously entered into by the authorities at that place.

Should these endeavours on your part unfortunately prove unavailing, the Governor in Council requests that you will communicate the same to Captain Smith, when that officer will, in co-operation with the senior officer commanding the military force, adopt such measures for the capture and occupation of Aden, or otherwise, as may appear to them best calculated to effect the objects which you may point out. The senior officer in command of the troops under dispatch for Aden has likewise, as per copy of my letter of the 14th, inclosed, been instructed to place himself under your political authority.

The Superintendent of the Indian Navy has been authorized to engage a transport vessel capable of being armed, and so chartered as to command her services for an unlimited period, to serve both as a defence and as a depôt for stores at Aden, should this measure be found absolutely necessary.

I have, &c.

*J. P. Willoughby.*

— No. 86. —

The Secretary to the Bombay Government to the Adjutant-General of the Bombay Army.

Sir,

Bombay, 24 December 1838.

As the military command of the expedition proceeding to Aden will devolve on Major Bailie, the senior officer, I am directed by the Governor in Council to request that the Major-general commanding the forces will be pleased to furnish that officer with the following instruction for his guidance.

On the arrival of Major Bailie at Aden, that officer should consider himself under the political authority of Commander Haines, who has been entrusted with the negotiations at that place, and in concert with Captain Smith, the naval officer in charge of the vessels forming part of the expedition, place himself in communication with Commander Haines.

It should be strongly impressed upon Major Bailie, that it is a point of the first importance in regard to the footing on which the British Government may afterwards hold Aden, that the objects of the negotiation should, if possible, be accomplished without attacking the place; and on the arrival there of the expedition, Commander Haines will renew his endeavours to obtain the fulfilment of the engagements previously entered into with the authorities at Aden.

Should Commander Haines, however, unfortunately find his endeavours unavailing, that officer will communicate the same to Captain Smith, who will thereon, in co-operation with Major Bailie, as the senior officer commanding the military force, adopt such measures for the capture and occupation of Aden, or otherwise, as may appear to them best calculated to effect the objects which may be pointed out to them by Commander Haines.

On possession of Aden being obtained by the British Government, either by negotiation or otherwise, Major Bailie should direct his immediate attention to

No. 86.

The Secretary to the  
Bombay Govern-  
ment to the Adju-  
tant-General,  
24 December 1838.



the best arrangements in his power for the defence and retention of that place, against force or surprise.

Major Baillie having applied to Government for a copy of the plan of Aden, and of its accompanying memoir by Commander Haines, the same are herewith forwarded for the purpose of being delivered to that officer.

I am, &c.

J. P. Willoughby.

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— No. 87. —

No. 87.

Captain Haines to  
the Secretary to the  
Bombay Govern-  
ment, 12 Dec. 1838.

Captain *Haines* to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

Sir,

Aden, 12 December 1838.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of Government, a report of proceedings since my last, per steam-ship *Atalanta*.

On the day of that vessel's arrival (13th November) Sultan Hamed sent a man on board for information; he was treated with civility, and next morning returned to the town. The day following, a party came down to see Sheik Tyeb Ibramjee, whom I permitted to visit them under a strong escort; he solicited him to come into the town, which he evaded by saying he could not do so without my permission.

On the 15th, I wrote a polite note to Sultan Hamed, requesting a native servant of Lieutenant Evans (Bombay regiment) to be delivered up, having learned he had been conveyed to the town by four Bedouins, and was detained there; I also received a message, saying Syed M. Houssain (the Sultan's son-in-law) wished to meet Sheik Tyeb near the second point, being afraid to come near the ship; this I acceded to, and desired Sheik Tyeb to proceed there in the launch, which was well armed. The meeting took place about one P. M., Lieutenant Johnston, senior lieutenant of the *Coote*, having charge of the party, which consisted of 15 well-armed seamen, six European soldiers of the Bombay regiment; the boat having her 12-pounders loaded with grape and canister. Syed M. Houssain had 50 armed Bedouins to accompany him. The meeting was only explanatory. Syed M. Houssain strongly urged Sheik Tyeb to proceed back with him, and to accompany him to Lahedge, which he politely evaded, and the parties separated on apparent good terms. Syed M. Houssain, with Sultan Hamed, the same evening proceeded to Lahedge.

On the 18th November I received information from Reshid Abdulla that Syed M. Houssain expected Sheik Tyeb would have been less protected, and intended to have taken him by force, and detain him until I restored all the papers; but the strength and appearance of the party, and the good judgment evinced by Lieutenant Johnston, in placing his boat so as to cut up the Bedouins with grape, prevented the attempt. I also heard the Adenites had offered four dollars a bag for dates if brought to the town.

On the 18th, P. M. a messenger brought a letter from Sultan M. Houssain, addressed to Sheik Tyeb, full of abusive language to me, to which I wrote a reply for Sheik Tyeb, and a letter with my signature.

On the 19th November I sent Sheik Tyeb to Burburra to hire boats to procure water, wood, and provisions for the ship of war *Coote*, which vessel I was anxious should be full before any troops might arrive, and thereby be enabled to assist them.

On the 20th, in the morning, I observed a large body of armed Bedouins proceed into the town, and on the return of the pinnace, about 4 P. M., we were informed the Bedouins had opened a severe fire upon her, three balls having struck her, and one gone through her, fortunately without hurting a single man.

The pinnace had left the ship in the morning under the charge of Lieutenant Hamilton, third lieutenant of the *Coote* (having with him Lieutenant Evans, of the Bombay regiment), for the purpose of directing any bugaláhs they might see, to proceed to the ship; they had spoken one vessel, and found her empty, the people on board being employed in diving for dates that had sunk in a vessel belonging to the Futhelée tribe a few days before. Having left the vessel, they were beckoned to come on shore, but declined; and they had not proceeded 30 yards from the point when about 50 matchlocks opened fire upon them, which civility was promptly returned by grape from a three-pounder gun, and some small arms.

After



After so shameful and cowardly an attack, I considered the provocation and insult sufficient to ensure the approval of Government, and therefore wrote a letter to Commander Denton.

During the night of the 20th, Commander Denton, at my suggestion, sent a long nine-pounder to Jereret Frinjee, and through the exertion of Lieutenant Hamilton, third lieutenant, and Lieutenant Western, of the Engineers, it was ready for firing at day-light, when Captain Denton, Lieutenant Evans, Bombay regiment, and myself, joined them with additional strength, composed of Messrs. Harrison and Darke, 15 European soldiers, 10 marines, and some seamen, with a five-inch howitzer.

Owing to shot from the long nine-pounder and the activity of the launch and pinnace, each with small guns, several parties were prevented from entering the town, and a number of laden camels driven back. Several shot struck the pass, and displaced one of their guns, and two shells were sent by Lieutenant Western immediately over the gate.

Every hill was occupied by Bedouins, and they kept up a constant fire from great guns and musketry without effect; as the tide receded, they were so exasperated that they came down in large bodies with the intention of storming our gun, and, the bank which connects Jereret Frinjee to the main being dry, they were enabled to come under cover of the rocks within 80 or 90 yards of our position; the firing then became brisk, and lasted so for some minutes, when the cross-fire from the pinnace and island compelled them to retreat with some loss, and a few of our men took possession of the spot they evacuated.

After dark the party and guns returned on board, there being only one man slightly wounded by a matchlock ball on the thumb; the pass guns were well trained by Egyptians, and they must have expended 60 round of shot. Both officers and men, seamen and soldiers, behaved with great steadiness and firmness.

On the 22d, some Bedouins had the temerity to come down and fire at the ship, retreating after firing quicker than they came. The launch, with Lieutenants Johnston, Hamilton, Evans, and Western, went round to prevent trade; they were warmly received, 10 large shots being fired at them with tolerable precision by Egyptians. On rounding Ras Marshy they had a skirmish from musketry, but without loss on our side; the enemy, a loss of two men, one blown from their own gun, and the other shot by Lieutenant Hamilton when returning their fire from the launch.

On the 23d the man I sent to Shugra for water, wood, and provisions, returned, bringing with him a boat-load, and a letter from Sultan Hamed ben Abdulla, of the Futhlees, to my address, in answer to which I wrote, and the boat, with a guard from the Coote, returned with empty casks.

On the 25th the punt of the Coote, with two lascars in it, was proceeding on shore for some sand, not a quarter of a mile from the ship, and had just grounded, when about 100 matchlocks opened fire at her, not a man at the time visible from the ship. The two men miraculously escaped, and brought the boat off, only one ball having gone through her backboard, the splinter of which grazed the temple of the after man.

This ambush was a deep-laid scheme to seize or destroy some of the officers, the Bedouins having received information from the fishermen that they frequently bathed there in the morning; their disappointment must have been great to find only two native lads in her, and their preservation when fired at so close (25 to 30 yards), I can attribute to the dread the Bedouins had of the Coote's boats (by which they had previously suffered) pulling in and raking them.

On the 26th and 27th of November the sloop of war, Coote, was under weigh, preventing trade, and was so fortunate as to prevent a cargo of rice and sugar being thrown into the town; their guns opened fire at us, but at a ridiculous distance; the launch and ship continued to prevent trade, and were in several instances successful.

On the 29th they sent a flag of truce with a letter from Syed Zain (the patron saint of Aden), to which I returned an answer; and on the following morning the messenger returned with a flag of truce and the letter from the Syed's son, which containing mere nonsense, I answered it as laconic as possible.

On Sunday, December 2d, a very large body of Bedouins lay behind the rocks, within 500 yards of the vessel, in hopes that some of the Coote's crew would land; fortunately no boats went towards the shore, but about 5 P.M. a fishing canoe landed two Mocha men, who, unperceived by the Bedouins, ascended the hill;



the canoe with two other men, after landing them, pulled into the bay, and one man had landed, when a volley was fired at him; he, however, though chased, got safely into the canoe, and the Coote's launch, Lieutenant Hamilton in charge, pulled in and saved her, by withdrawing their fire from the canoe to the launch; the former was directed to pull in round the point, and save the two Arabs who were on shore, and who retreated from within 10 yards of the Bedouins in safety, owing to their attention being devoted to the launch. While the canoe pulled in to save them, the Coote fired a few grape and shell; the pinnace, Lieutenant Johnston, pulled round and took them in the rear. This successful manœuvre withdrew their attention from the men, and they were rescued without any accident on the side of the British.

The sloop of war, Coote, while stopping trade off Aden, after a six hours' chase, on the 5th of December, came up with a fine gaujah, called the Atteel Allah, which had left Aden in the morning with a cargo of jowaree, wheat, coffee, &c. belonging to the principal merchant at Lahedge; the owner of the boat residing in the town of Aden. She had five Banians, two women, and Lieutenant Evans's servant, on board as passengers; the latter had been sent on board by Sultan Hamed, to prevent his escaping from the town and giving us information.

On the 6th, the Coote, with the prize in tow, stood past the town, and Sultan Hamed was made aware of the capture, after her third attempt to escape British vigilance. The gaujah being a fast sailer, Lieutenant Johnston, with a party of 24 Europeans (seamen and soldiers) and a 12-pounder carronade, were put into her, and she sailed as a decoy to seize the Sultan's boat, which was ready to sail to Kurrem with a cargo.

On the 7th Sultan Hamed sent Reshid Abdulla and the owner of the boat down to us with a flag of truce, to solicit the delivery of the boat and the owner's son, and to inquire if I would now agree to pay the 8,000 dollars; in reply, I explained to them that all their requests were unreasonable, for the Adenites had made war against us, and the boat and cargo was a lawful prize; and that on the subject of the money I had already informed them of the only condition under which I could accept peace without further authority from Government. They then requested permission to purchase some dates from two deeply laden vessels near us, which the Coote's boats had prevented from going into Bunder Duras: this I also refused, and they left the ship, having obtained nothing satisfactory from their visit.

On the 10th and 11th of December, Sultan Hamed sent down a flag of truce, but their questions and wishes were so unreasonable and silly, that I requested the bearer not to come again, unless he brought me a letter with the seal of all the chieftains attached, as a security for the immediate delivery of the land of Aden, and to solicit forgiveness from the British Government for their past conduct; for it was on that condition alone that I could listen to their wish for a cessation of hostilities.

I have, &c.

S. B. Haines.

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— No 88. —

No. 88.

The Sultan of Aden  
to Sheik Tyeb  
Ibramjee.

The Sultan of Aden to Sheik *Tyeb Ibramjee*.

No date (received 17 November).

I KNOW you have arrived; you have come from Government to settle affairs between me and the English, and I now tell you that the English and myself are very great friends of old date. The Government sent us a letter with their seal; you did not know this; you are well acquainted with me, and my father, and are aware we are old friends with the English. The Government wish not to be at enmity with me, nor do I with them.

Last year Captain Haines and the interpreter, Jaffer, came to me and brought me a letter from Government containing censure and angry words, and they directed me to restore the property. I then told them to go to the Kazee and the Nocadah's; but they would not listen to me, and used strong language. I then told him he had brought a letter to me from his Government, and that I sent a reply to take to  
Bombay,



Bombay, when his answer was, I represent Government. I again wished him to talk to the Nocadah; but he would not, and I could not satisfy him. I told him I was friendly with his Government, and had long been so, and that I had no property; but still he enforced it, and would not listen to me, and at last he compelled me to restore the property I had received at the Custom-house. I then wrote a letter to the Governor, explaining every thing; I know not if he sent it; he may have hid it. After I had given him the cargo, and all was settled, he wished for Aden; when he did so, I directed him not to mention it, and what passed between us I would not attend or listen to.

In my heart I believe Captain Haines, who is sent to me, has a face determined on fighting; to him I promised nothing, and he has told lies to Government. All his language is bad, and do not you listen to him. I know he is a man that will not let me off without fighting me; his face shows it. Afterwards we had more language, and when I saw his face so determined, I endeavoured to escape him, and put it off for two months, while each held council.

He now says he has a bond in his possession with my seal for Aden; but I say it is a lie; I never sent him a letter or spoke of it; it is all lies, and disgraceful. If he has such a thing, let me see it, and if it has my seal it is a witness against me; if he has it, I will act upon it; for I would not say a word if he shows me the seal.

This commander has brought this upon me; it is his work, and we will not listen to it. I have a treaty with his Government. I wish to see you, and you will then see if my words are not true. That man in his heart wishes to rule Aden, but he never shall until the sword is at our throats.

You come to me, and if you wish it Syed Hydroosse, Reshid Abdulla, or others will accompany you; we can then converse. I wish to know what you have to say, and will inform you of all that has passed; I will explain and tell truth. You have come between us to put all to rights, for we have been friends with the English for many years. We will settle all with justice.

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— No. 89. —

Captain *Haines* to the Sultan of Aden.

17 November 1838.

WITH compliments. I wrote to your son Sultan Hamed, when in Aden, a few days ago, to deliver up a British subject that he detained there, which he did not; and Syed M. Houssain, on the 15th, promised Sheik Tyeb, that he should be immediately sent back.

Since then, I imagine he has been taken by force to Lahedge. I therefore request his immediate restoration in the name of the British Government.

No. 89.

Captain Haines to  
the Sultan of Aden,  
17 November 1838.

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— No. 90. —

Sheik *Tyeb Ibramjee* to the Sultan of Aden.

17 November 1838.

I RECEIVED your letter and understood it: if you wish to have conversation with me, I shall be happy to see you, but I cannot come to Lahedge without the authority of Captain Haines.

I explained to your son-in-law, Syed M. Houssain, that all Captain Haines had informed you of, was by the authority of the Bombay Government; and if you will not believe me or others, I cannot help it, and it must rest with yourself.

No. 90.

Sheik Tyeb  
Ibramjee, to the  
Sultan of Aden,  
17 November 1838.

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— No. 91. —

Captain *Haines* to Captain *Denton*.

Aden, 20 November 1838.

Sir,

OWING to the unjustifiable and unexpected attack made upon your pinnacle this day, in which boat, through the kind mercy of Providence, neither officer or man was hurt, I have the honour to request you will avail yourself of every favourable opportunity to resent the insult offered to the British, by destroying the Bedouins or property belonging to Aden; and further, that you will endeavour to pre-

No. 91.

Captain Haines to  
Captain Denton,  
20 November 1838.

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vent trade or provisions being thrown into the town from the bays of Aden or the Northern Gate.

And should you have an opportunity of capturing either bugalah, bedan, or other boat belonging to the Sultan, or any merchant at Aden, I request you will do so and detain the prisoners and property until the pleasure of Government is known.

I have, &c.

*S. B. Haines.*

— No. 92. —

No. 92.

Sultan Hamed ben  
Abdulla to Captain  
Haines.

Sultan *Hamed ben Abdulla* of the Futhalees, to Captain *Haines*.

Received 23 November 1838.

To my great friend Captain Haines, with the usual compliments. I write from Shugra, and all is well, and I am at peace with all. Your letter reached me by Ayah, and what you wrote I understood. You wrote for wood, water and provisions, but we have no large boat; I now send you Syed Sallah and Salem; whatever you require, mention it to them, and they will do it. I shall be happy to see any one from you. Write me all the news of yourselves and the Abdalees, and let me know if you have made friends, or intend to fight.

With Salaams,

(seal of) *Hamed ben Abdulla*, Futhalee.

— No. 93. —

No. 93.

Captain Haines to  
Sultan Hamed ben  
Abdulla,  
23 November 1838.

Captain *Haines* to Sultan *Hamed ben Abdulla*.

23 November 1838.

WITH every kind compliment, accept my thanks for your attention in sending the water, wood and provisions. I now return the boat with casks in her, under the guard of two officers and four men to protect her, in case the Abdalees should attack her, they having commenced firing on us a few days ago. I expect a vessel from Bombay in 12 or 14 days, when I will send you the news.

Will you kindly hurry your people in completing the boat with water.

*S. B. Haines.*

— No. 94. —

No. 94.

Sultan Hamed ben  
Abdulla to Captain  
Haines,  
28 November 1838.

Sultan *Hamed ben Abdulla* to Captain *Haines*.

28 November 1838.

WITH compliments and regards. To my friend, God bless you. From Shugra. All's well. Your letter reached me, also the money for the boat and supplies. It was not my wish to receive money; but to obtain a very large boat and send you everything, in which I was disappointed, there being no large boat. The officers hired a boat, and made arrangements; I wished to scold the owner for charging so much, but the officer said their word had passed, and the English never broke it. Besides this, my friend, on the day I informed you of my wishes relative to the Abdalees, they increased my hatred for them by an insult. One of my boats went to Aden; they sent men, seized, and sunk her; when she broke, they plundered everything; which act, they say, is on account of my showing friendship for the English. My nakhooda wished to give you the information, but was prevented. Syed Salem, however, informs me you are acquainted with the particulars. You wrote me that perhaps we may meet again. When will it be? Write me, and I will remain. When your letter reached me, I informed my friends and tribe, and showed them your presents. Write me everything you wish in your heart. If you require water, wood, provisions, on your order they shall be sent.

I wish to send you a horse, but cannot send it in a boat. Whenever you wish, my previous words shall be carried into execution. Mention your wishes, and you shall find I have but one word.

Let me know the news from India.

(seal of)

Sultan *Hamed ben Abdulla*, Futhalee.



## — No. 95. —

Captain *Haines* to Sultan *Hamed ben Abdulla*.

30 November 1838.

WITH the customary compliments. I received your letter, and offer you my best thanks for your kindness and friendship. I return the boat having water on board, and being in expectation of a large supply from Zara in a few days.

When the British require supplies, you may depend they will not forget your kind offer, and will avail themselves of it. Pray do not send the horse, for there is no place to keep it in on board, and I seldom visit the shore. Believe me, I receive the intention as a compliment equally with the gift or receipt of it. I regret you have lost your boat, and hope the Abdalees will be made to answer for the insult. I cannot meet you now, for I shall most probably receive orders from Bombay in a few days, and must await them. The reports you have heard of our suffering a loss is a falsehood, for not one man has fallen, and it was only yesterday Hydroosse sent to make peace.

*S. B. Haines.*

## No. 95.

Captain Haines to  
Sultan Hamed ben  
Abdulla.  
30 November 1838.

## — No. 96. —

*Syed Zain ben Hydroosse* to Captain *Haines*.

29 November 1838.

GOD preserve you, with compliments and salaams. I write from Aden. All's well, and what I inform you in this letter is good, and you will understand it. We are Syeds, and reside in Aden; it is our duty to come between two opposing parties, and settle disputes. You and Sultan M. Houssain have quarrelled, and no one here wishes it; the people are frightened, and the poor come crying to me daily, and I now write that I may come for peace. We are Syeds, and both sides will listen to us; if it is in your judgment to permit me to come, let me know. I wish to obtain information from both sides, and God knows I am with you by truth and by God. Whatever is between you, let me know. Keep nothing on your heart. Send me an answer.

*Syed Zain.*

## No. 96.

*Syed Zain ben*  
*Hydroosse* to Cap-  
tain *Haines*,  
29 November 1838

## — No. 97. —

Captain *Haines* to *Syed Zain ben Hydroosse*.

29 November 1838.

WITH compliments. The Government sent me here as their representative, with the kindest and best intentions; the Abdalees have declared war by firing on the Government ship's boat, in which by God's mercy no one was injured, nor have we any since in the different attacks.

I am sorry to hear the poor suffer in Aden, but we have no remedy. I can only advise Sultan Hamed to permit them, as well as other harmless creatures, to quit the town before war on our part commences, otherwise in all probability many will fall by shot or shell.

If you wish to see me, be assured you shall be received with respect, for I know your office is to make peace and not war.

*S. B. Haines.*

## No. 97.

Captain Haines to  
*Syed Zain ben Hy-*  
*droosse*,  
29 November 1838.



— No. 98. —

No. 98.

Syed Aloose ben  
Syed Hydroosse to  
Captain Haines,  
30 November 1838.

*Syed Aloose ben Syed Hydroosse to Captain Haines.*

30 November 1838.

WITH salaams, written from Aden, where all are well. Your note reached me; you wrote to say you would like to see me, but I wish all that passes to be secret and private.

How can I come when I do not understand the feelings you have, or what you wish? When I understand every wish in writing from the Sultan and yourself, which I do not yet, I will see.

I wish for truth, and then we will make peace. When I see the road clear, I will settle every thing, if God wishes it. If God does not wish it, I cannot help it.

We are Syeds and cannot fight, or enforce either party to make peace; it is in my heart to settle it, and to make peace. I wish for your feelings and true words, so that all may be clear in a few words. These words will reach you; in our hearts we have nothing bad, and I shall be delighted to make peace.

We are Syeds, and men that administer relief to those who require it. If this letter is understood, send me an answer.

*Syed Aloose.*

— No. 99. —

No. 99.

Captain Haines to  
Syed Aloose ben  
Zain Hydroosse.

*Captain Haines to Syed Aloose ben Zain Hydroosse.*

WITH compliments. You wish for my feelings in a few words; it is the English custom to do so, and not change it.

I give you mine, which is that I did not ask you to make peace, nor do I wish it. The Abdalees commenced hostilities by firing at us, and they will be heartily tired of it ere it terminates. As yet the fighting has been merely with boats.

With salaams to your father and self.

*S. B. Haines.*

— No. 100. —

No. 100.

Captain Haines to  
the Secretary to  
the Bombay Go-  
vernment,  
13 December 1838.

*Captain Haines to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay.*

The Company's ship Coote, Aden,  
13 December 1838.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform you, in continuation of my report, (No. 2.) that on the morning of the 13th of December, Reshid ben Abdulla and Mussand ben Dubaunee came on board under a flag of truce; they were sent by the Sultan M. Houssain to apply for 10 days' peace, so that he and other chieftains might visit me on board, and arrange the matter. In reply, I distinctly stated I could only make a lasting peace under the conditions I had previously given, which was the immediate transfer of Aden to the British, and their throwing themselves on the mercy and generosity of Government.

Their reason for now so earnestly wishing to make peace, is owing to the severe measures taken of preventing supplies proceeding into the town, also on account of some reports they have received from Bombay by a bugalah.

The ship of war Coote frequently receives a supply of wood and water from the Abyssinian coast, by means of two boats I have hired, which measure I hope will meet the approval of the Governor in Council.

Should a larger supply be hereafter found requisite, I beg to inform you I shall be able to procure other vessels to obtain it.

I have, &c.

*S. B. Haines.*



— No. 101. —

Captain *Haines* to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

No. 101.

Captain Haines  
to the Secretary to  
the Bombay Go-  
vernment,  
13 December 1838.

(Extract.)

Aden Harbour, 13 December 1838.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, for the information of Government, that seven days after the steamer ship, *Atalanta*, left this port for Bombay, the Abdalees in Aden commenced firing on the British without provocation or warning. Their intention had been to commence and intimidate us before; but prudence had led them to refrain from so doing until my dispatches had left for the Presidency.

Since this firing commenced we have had repeated opportunities of reconnoitring their strength, and the extra defences they have thrown up, consisting of a sand-bag battery, mounting three guns, on Seerah; one gun to cannonade the pass at Bunder Duras; one gun at the southern gate; two guns at the old forts to the northward of the northern gate; and one gun near Gibul Haddeed; in all, they have about 14 guns, most of which have been trained and fired at us, by Egyptians or Turks, with tolerable precision.

They have but an indifferent supply of shot in the town, for I always observe their first shot is better trained than others which follow from the same gun, and that it is owing to its being a picked shot for the calibre, I have little doubt.

The open declaration of war, on the part of the Abdalees or Adenites in the treacherous manner they did, caused me to solicit Captain Denton to inflict some immediate punishment, and being convinced we could more effectually do it by landing on one of the islands at the eastern extreme of Aden harbour, I strongly recommended it; the consequence was, the Bedouins received chastisement for the insult, and in executing it the officers, seamen, and soldiers, European and native, merit praise.

The loss sustained by the Bedouins, the blockade of Aden, and the continued annoyance they received from the armed boats of the *Coote*, in all directions, occasioning them to fly from hill to hill with celerity, so harassed them that on the 29th November they wished for truce and peace, which, I informed their messenger, could now only be obtained by the immediate transfer of Aden without any specified sum, the Sultan throwing himself on the mercy of Government.

From what information I could obtain, it would appear that, two days prior to their application for peace, the Bedouin chieftains held meetings, and, with Sultan Hamed at their head, agreed to sue for a cessation of hostilities, through Syed Zain; but in making the arrangement they determined Sultan M. Houssain should not receive the whole 8000 dollars. Sheik Maidee chief of the Maidee or Sullamee subdivision of the Abdalees, being absent, they wrote to him, prior to going to Syed Zain; his answer was, that the same feelings were entertained by himself and followers, and that the money must be arranged for each subdivision, prior to Aden being delivered up. This being the unanimous opinion, Sultan Hamed wished to see if they could now make their own terms, and if the British were also anxious for peace, which occasioned Syed Zain's letter.

The poor in Aden suffer greatly, owing to the Bedouins making them almost their slaves, without the slightest remuneration either in food or money. They are now employed all day, grinding corn or jowaree, conveying water and provisions to the different guards on the hills and passes; and have had to carry stones, &c. for the loose breastwork thrown up in different places; in fact, they perform all the labour, while the Bedouin reclines at his ease.

The present state of affairs at Aden stands thus. Sultan M. Houssain and his son Sultan Hamed have quarrelled, owing to the latter's folly in commencing hostilities; and a severe letter was sent from the father to the son, when the report of the capture of the *Atteel Allah* by the *Coote* reached Lahedge. The only two subdivisions of the Abdalees who have been engaged with us are the Sullamees and Hazzabees; the latter is the strongest, and can muster 400 or 500 matchlocks. Their chief is named Sheik Abdulla Hazzaab, but his eldest son Hamed ben Abdulla has more power with their followers.

Neither of the principal Hazzabee chieftains possesses any great reverence, or regard for their sovereign Sultan M. Houssain, and would hesitate to attend to his orders; but with Sultan Hamed it would be different; he being half Hazzabee on his mother's side (who was sister to Sheik Abdulla), a greater deference is



therefore shown, and his orders are in some measure attended to. The force they sent at his request, was commanded by Sheik Mahomed ben Abdulla, a younger son, who now remains in Aden to oppose us; it is, however, apparent, that instead of tacit obedience to superior authority, they will dictate, and Sultan Hamed cannot do otherwise than submit to their wishes, for he is by them held in thralldom, and they have led him into a labyrinth from which he cannot extricate himself; and they will ultimately plunder Aden and repay themselves, and satisfy their avarice, which alone brought them into it.

The Sultan of the Futhellee tribe, Hamed ben Abdulla, has collected together 2,000 or 3,000 men, to take revenge upon Sultan M. Houssain of the Abdalees, for the destruction and plunder of his boat in Aden; and it is the opinion of the merchants in the town, that he will remain in readiness until the arrival of troops to take possession of Aden, when he will march on to Lahedge, and plunder it.

Whatever number of Bedouins may be in Aden on the arrival of British troops, I do not think they will remain firm in defence of it; but it is better to be prepared for a stout resistance, as they are treacherous and deceitful; and in whatever manner we may obtain possession, I take the liberty of mentioning that they are unworthy of any great leniency or indulgence; their promise, let it even be made on the Koran, is frequently broken, and they are incapable of estimating a kind intention, and would consider any leniency shown, on account of their ignorance, as timidity, instead of generosity, on the part of the British.

The chieftains of the Abdalee tribe are fully aware that British attention in India is at present occupied by the Guicowar, Cabool, Candahar, Persian, and Burmese governments, and that a force has been sent to the Persian Gulf, Kura-chee, and Cabool. This information they have received from the correspondence of the Banians; and the person who came down with the last flag of truce, told me that the people in the town were convinced the British could not spare men from Bombay for Aden, owing to the unsettled state of the different countries bordering on our Indian possessions. He also informed me, that Sultan Hamed would give any sum to obtain me as a prisoner, and that Aden would willingly be given for my head.

I am fully aware, from my knowledge of Sultan Hamed's hasty disposition, that his threats, and wish to injure me, are the mere ebullition of the moment, and feel convinced, when all is quietly arranged, he will bear no particular hatred or malice; his present feelings of irritation being caused by a belief that I have a wish to reduce his power, and diminish his dignity.

I have, &c.

*S. B. Haines.*

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— No. 102. —

Captain *Haines* to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

No. 102.  
Captain Haines,  
to the Secretary to  
the Bombay Go-  
vernment,  
15 December 1838.

Sir,

Aden Bay, 15 December 1838.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the schooner *Mahé* arrived at this harbour about 9 A.M. on the 14th of December, and I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letters No. 488 (A.), and 505 and 509 of 1838; also a letter from the Governor in Council to Sultan M. Houssain, of the Abdalees, and Sultan Hamed ben Abdulla, of the Futhellees.

About noon on the same day the steam ship *Berenice* arrived, by which vessel I received duplicates of the letters above-mentioned. Having delivered the Coote's provisions, &c., she left for Suez by 5 P.M.

Prior to the arrival of the *Berenice* a flag of truce came down, and Reshid Abdulla came on board with a request from Sultan M. Houssain to grant him two days to settle affairs. This I acceded to, and by Reshid forwarded the Government's letter, with one from myself.

Everything now remains quiet, there having been neither ambush nor firing for some days, and I hope most sincerely to be able in a very short time to settle everything to meet the wish of Government, which I clearly understand.

I have, &c.,

*S. B. Haines.*



## — No. 103. —

Captain *Haines* to the Sultan of Aden.

14 December 1838.

I HAVE the pleasure to send a letter from the Governor in Council to your address, and you should bear in mind that when it was written he was not aware of your people having commenced hostilities in the shameful manner they did, and I need not explain to you what his feelings will be when made acquainted with it by the steamer that I hourly expect. You have appealed for two days' peace. I grant it, but your answer must be decisive; and the only one I can receive to give a permanent peace is, that you immediately deliver up the land of Aden to the British, and solicit forgiveness from Government. I also inform you, that for any annual payment you must throw yourself on the kindness and generosity of the British Government.

*S. B. Haines.*

No. 103.

Captain Haines  
to the Sultan of  
Aden,  
14 December 1838.

## — No. 104. —

Captain *Haines* to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.  
(Extract.)

Aden Harbour, 6 January 1839.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, for the information of Government, that since the steam-ship, *Hugh Lindsay*, left this harbour, nothing but one continued course of falsehood and deception has transpired on the part of the Sultan of Lahedge towards me.

It is my opinion, that Sultan M. Houssain called in the neighbouring tribe of Futhlees to a conference, in hopes of gaining them over to assist him in opposing us, or to act as a mediator between us.

Should the troops arrive prior to anything more decisive being concluded between the Sultan and myself, I think it advisable (unless some order per next steamer should deter me from it) to use the influence of money to prevent any effusion of blood; for I conceive that the Governor in Council would rather permit me to use that powerful weapon, after all negotiation has failed through continued falsehood and treachery, than run the risk of loss of life by storm.

Being fearful, that, owing to the late active occupation of the naval department in Bombay, gun-boats may not be sent up with the troops, I have requested Captain Denton to prepare a vessel (lately belonging to the Sultan, which was captured at my suggestion,) for active service. She is a strong built boat of about 15 tons burthen, and capable of carrying a 12-pound gun in the bow, and one of the light eight-inch mortars in the centre; thus equipped, she will answer either as a mortar-vessel or gun-boat, being now lugg-rigged, and capable of pulling with 20 paddles.

There is one particularly weak part in the defences of the town, which the Arabs have overlooked; and I consider the boat above alluded to, could be placed in position where she would remain uninjured by the enemy's shot, while she could throw in shell, and withdraw their attention while the troops were landing, or in case of need she could land 80 men.

As the boat was captured by the *Coote*, I deemed it correct to request her being valued by a committee of officers, who have determined her valuation at 250 dollars. I therefore consider her services will be cheap, should the Governor in Council be pleased to afterwards permit the captors to receive that sum.

The European Turk, who had charge of the Sultan's artillery in Aden, was seriously wounded a few days ago by the explosion of a gun he was directing against the schooner, *Mahé*, when cruising in the Eastern Bay; one of his assistants shared the same fate, and one Bedouin was killed by the return fire of the schooner.

The only notice Sultan M. Houssain took of the letter the Governor in Council honoured him with, per *Berenice*, was acknowledging its receipt, and apparently determining to act up to his promise of transferring Aden to the British: such correct intention soon evaporated, as proved by his letter received on the 25th of December; since which period he has sent repeated messengers, but none to the



poin., and he will continue to do so until he is convinced the Bombay Government are serious in their intentions, which the arrival of the troops will exhibit to his disbelieving mind. He will then, when too late, wish to arrange everything agreeable to his first promise. He cannot be made to believe he is answerable for the insulting conduct of his son and tribe, or that he has acted wrong in any way; his repeated exclamation is, "I did not give the order; I did not fire; I have done them no wrong; it was my son; it was the Bedouins, not me."

I trust the opportunity I gave him, of still receiving the money for the transfer, by the lenient apology I required (which I wrote from his own explanatory words), will be considered all I could have done after their insulting conduct, without diminishing the power, dignity, and respect of the British; in fact, had I acted contrary, I feel confident such compromise would not have been properly estimated, and would only have caused trouble hereafter.

He appeared willing to apologize by a verbal message; I demanded a written apology, which might be forwarded in original to the Governor in Council.

Sultan M. Houssain is now in Aden, and his son Hamed at Labedge; the father's reason for remaining on the spot is, no doubt, to procure remuneration for delivering up the place quietly, in case the arrival of the troops should compel him to do so.

I can only regret, that success has not attended my strenuous endeavours to accomplish the wish of Government; it has not been for want of perseverance, but the task was a tedious and difficult one.

When the Sultan promised to deliver the place up on the 23d of December, I determined to take possession of the island of Seerah with about 150 soldiers and seamen, and some guns; and will do so still, should the Sultan be inclined to act up to his promise, prior to the arrival of the troops. I could defend it with that number against great odds, and it commands the town in case they should again change their minds.

I have much pleasure in reporting that the mortar and gun vessel, Choki, (late belonging to the Sultan) is ready for service; she has been tried and found to answer well.

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— No. 105. —

Captain *Haines* to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

(Extract.)

9 January 1839.

IN continuation of my last report dated December 15, 1838, I have the honour to inform you for the information of Government, that on the day of the expiration of the truce (16th December), mentioned in the letter alluded to, I received the letter from Sultan M. Houssain Abdalee, and granted the number of days he required to arrange his affairs prior to the transfer being made. On the 18th December, the transport and coal vessel, Ann Crichton, arrived, also the water-boat, from the Abyssinian shore, with a letter informing me that Sultan Hamed Abdalee had sent over 200 dollars as a bribe to the chief at Zara, to prevent our being supplied with water or wood; and should opportunity offer, they were to murder any European coming over from the Coote: a bribe, and the fear of future consequences, procured the water.

On the 21st and 22d, I observed camels conveying baggage out of the town into the interior; and on the latter day Reshid ben Abdulla came on board to solicit peace until the 25th December, which I declined, conceiving another breach of promise was intended. I also received a letter from Sultan Hamed Fethelee, and returned an answer.

On the 23d December, Reshid Abdulla and Dubaunee came on board with a letter which I replied to, and granted an extension of the truce. On the 24th, I received another letter from Sultan M. Houssain, which I answered, and forwarded a copy of the apology I required under the seal of the Sultan, informing the messengers, that after so much nonsense and deceit, I should direct the truce flag to be hauled down on the 25th December, at noon, unless they performed their promise.

On the 25th, at noon, the truce flag was hauled down, but an interval of one hour had not passed before the messenger again made his appearance, and delivered me a letter. After perusing the letter, I sent the messenger back with the

No. 105.  
Captain Haines to  
the Secretary to  
the Bombay  
Government.  
9 January 1839.



the message, that as the Sultan had not performed his promise, the war which they commenced, would continue.

On the 26th December, a large bugalah arrived from Poor Bunder, owned by Mobarack ben Break, a respectable and influential merchant belonging to Zoore; he came for the purpose of conveying his own and brother's family out of the town of Aden, which amounted to 17 females and several children; his application to proceed there for so humane a purpose I immediately granted, and by him forwarded my answer.

On the 27th, the Sultan sent Mobarack ben Break to me, with an offer of one half the town. I merely returned the answer, that my letter decided what my intentions were. About noon the same day, the supply boats arrived after considerable detention, and the Sheiks of Zara, who came over in one of the boats to see me, informed me, the Choki, a boat belonging to Sultan M. Houssain, remained on the Abyssinian coast to prevent our obtaining supplies, and her nakhooda had offered 200 dollars to prevent our boats receiving water and other supplies; and other promises were made if they destroyed any Europeans that might arrive in them.

To prevent so important a circumstance as any stoppage being put to our water and supplies, and the conduct of Sultan Hamed and his emissaries being so disgraceful, I determined on her capture, and the party sailed two hours afterwards to carry my wishes into effect.

During the 28th, 29th and 30th December, I had no communication with the town; the blockade was strictly continued.

On the 30th, Lieutenant Johnston (senior Lieutenant of the Coote) returned with the party under his command, bringing with him the Sultan's vessel he was sent in search of; they first observed her standing out to sea, but on observing the Europeans, the crew immediately beached her, and it being at the top of high water, she was soon left high and dry; and they were enabled to save a considerable part of the goods prior to Lieutenant Johnston reaching her; on doing so, she was soon launched and taken possession of, without loss of life on either side.

On the 31st, Reshid Abdulla, and three other respectable men, came to me with a verbal request from the Sultan, that I would grant 12,000 dollars for the transfer; my reply was, that the Sultan must first apologize for past conduct prior to any friendly communication being received. From one of my visitors I received information that a meeting was shortly to take place at Sheik Othman, between the Futhellee and Abdalee Sultans, attended by the chieftains of the different subdivisions of their tribe.

On the 1st January 1839, the meeting of the Sultans took place at Sheik Othman, (a revered tomb about six miles n. by w. of Aden); and the conference did not break up until the 2d of January at sunset; prior to which the Sultan Hamed ben Abdulla sent me a letter which I answered, declining to meet him on shore in the Abdalee territory; but if he wished to see me, I should be happy to receive him afloat.

The Futhellee Sultan has obtained 380 dollars for the last year's payment, four bales of cloth and shawls as presents, and five dollars a man for his followers; besides which, the hand of Sultan M. Houssain's daughter was offered him in marriage. Sultan Hamed ben Abdulla received these, and all other advances of friendship, with apparent good will, but gave no promise of assistance, or of accepting the hand of the offered maiden; on the contrary, after obtaining as much as he could, he demanded 650 dollars for the boat they had plundered belonging to one of his subjects; this caused a separation in the council, and ultimately a degree of ill feeling prior to their breaking up the conference.

On the 4th January, the supply boat again returned with water, bringing information that the seizure of the Choki had instilled such fear into the minds of the inhabitants of the opposite shore, that they were willing to afford every assistance, and to attend to the wish of the English on all subjects.

On the 7th January I received a deputation from the town, consisting of Syed Zain Hydroosse, (the patron saint of Aden,) Syed Aloose, Reshid Abdulla, and Sheik Hamed Abdulla Hazzabee. They came for the purpose of asking me, if I would forgive the Sultan and his tribe, if he apologized, and threw himself on the mercy of Government; I told them in reply, I would do so; for I felt assured the Government would do it, in consideration of their ignorance of British character. My reply appeared to give general satisfaction, and they left me, promising to



bring the apology in the morning. On the 9th I received the letter, with the apology from Sultan M. Houssain accompanying it, which being totally different from the one I required, I returned it with my answer.

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— No. 106. —

No. 106.

The Sultan of Aden  
to Captain Haines,  
16 December 1838.

The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

16 December (or 27 Ramazan) 1838.

WITH compliments. I received the letter from Government, also one from you, by Reshid Abdulla, and I understand them. We cannot resist, or refuse the wish of the British Government. I am ready to quit Lahedge to come to you, on the 5th of the Shawul (23d December), and what I have to say Reshid will inform you of.

(Seal of the Sultan.)

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— No. 107. —

No. 107.

Sultan Hamed  
Abdulla, Futhellee,  
to Captain Haines.

Sultan *Hamed Abdulla*, Futhellee, to Captain *Haines*.

Received 16 December 1838.

THIS is from Shugra. All is well. We are waiting anxiously to know if there is peace or war with the Abdalees and English. Give me the news. I have collected my men. Whatever is between you and the Abdalees send me. A Zoore boat came and told me you had received news from Bombay, and that the Bedouins had been fighting you. For God's sake let me know all the news of the fight. Haddee is ordered to wait upon you for an answer.

*Hamed ben Abdulla*, Futhellee.

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— No. 108. —

No. 108.

Captain Haines to  
Sultan Hamed ben  
Abdulla, Futhellee,  
22 December 1838.

Captain *Haines* to Sultan *Hamed ben Abdulla*, Futhellee.

22 December 1838.

AFTER compliments. I have much pleasure in forwarding a letter from the Governor of Bombay, thanking you for your attention and kindness to me, the accredited agent at Aden, and I again beg to offer you my best thanks.

You write to me for news, and I am happy to send it to you. Two steamers have arrived and left since my last letter to you. One vessel of war and one large ship are also here from Bombay, the latter laden with coal, powder, shot, &c. In about 12 days other vessels will arrive with troops. On the arrival of the small vessel of war, I received a promise that Aden should be delivered to the British on the 5th of Shawul, and a truce was granted. The period terminates at sunset to-morrow, when war will commence, unless the Abdalee Chief acts up to his word. Our fighting has been trivial, with boats, and during the several skirmishes no one on our side has been hurt. On the subject of your boat, all I know is from the report of people from Aden, and they assert the property is now in Aden, and has not been plundered.

All I have yet heard from Aden has proved untrue; I therefore place no faith or dependence upon report.

With salaams,

*S. B. Haines.*

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— No. 109. —

No. 109.

The Sultan of Aden  
to Captain Haines.

The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

Received 23 December.

AFTER compliments. I give you information that a letter reached me from Reshid ben Abdulla relative to your determination. Believe me, I will come to you,



you, and have advanced towards you; but I cannot come quick, owing to my age and lameness, and for that reason I cannot come quick. I am willing and pleased with whatever terms you wish, and will not break faith; keep in your heart kind feelings and peace; I shall be with you in a short time.

Sultan *M. Houssain*, Abdalee.

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— No. 110. —

Captain *Haines* to the Sultan of Aden.

23 December 1838.

I RECEIVED your letter by Reshid ben Abdulla, and shall be happy to see you. I will keep the flag of truce flying until I hear from you in Aden.

It is customary with the English to give their opinions in a few words, and I can only say, that it will afford me satisfaction to see you sensible of past errors, and, by now acting honourably, regain the friendship you have lost.

*S. B. Haines.*

No. 110.  
Captain Haines to  
the Sultan of Aden,  
23 December 1838.

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— No. 111. —

The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

Received 24 December 1838.

GOD protect you! Your letter in answer to mine reached me. I am anxious to arrive at Aden, but am detained, being lame. Reshid is my witness, that my legs are sore and swollen, and you also know it.

I send Reshid, and whatever he says are my words and truth.

With salaams,

Sultan *M. Houssain*, Abdalee.

No. 111.  
The Sultan of Aden  
to Captain Haines.

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— No. 112. —

Captain *Haines* to the Sultan of Aden.

24 December 1838.

YOUR letter reached me in safety. I regret to hear you still suffer pain. I shall be happy to see you after an apology is made for the past conduct of your tribe; but until that is done, I cannot see you as a friend. I again recommend you to speedily conclude the transfer, for the troops will be here in a few days.

*S. B. Haines.*

No. 112.  
Captain Haines to  
the Sultan of Aden,  
24 December 1838.

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— No. 113. —

Copy of the Apology required by Captain *Haines* from the Sultan of Aden, or words to the same effect:—

No. 113.

I HAVE arrived from Lahedge to settle all disputes between the British Government and my State. I am aware how very badly my son and others have acted towards the English, and you as their accredited agent. Pray believe me, when I assure you every act of injustice and insult committed, has been contrary to my wish; and I have constantly ordered my son Hamed and his Bedouins not to act so foolishly, nor on any account to fire upon the English, our old friends.

Under these circumstances, I solicit forgiveness from the British Government, for the past conduct of myself and tribe, and throw myself on their mercy and forgiveness.

The land of Aden, as far north as Khore Muksa, with the adjacent harbours, I deliver to the English at noon to-morrow; and for any remuneration the generosity of the British Government may be pleased to give for the annual support of myself, family, and tribe, I shall be thankful.



— No. 114. —

No. 114.  
The Sultan of Aden  
to Captain Haines,  
24 December 1838.

The Sultan of Aden to Captain *Haines*.

24 December 1838.

YOUR letter reached me by Reshid. You wrote that language passed between us in the former year; yes, Sir. Reshid also came to me, and said, I must come to Aden. If you wish to meet me, I have come from Lahedge with sensible men (three Syeds), and I am lame. If you wish in your heart to see me, I am here. If you wish to overpower and accuse me, do so. You say there was language between us; bear this on your mind. You say that language passed, and the English do not tell falsehoods or break faith; and I never tell lies, but speak truth. You have no complaint against me; if you have any, prove it, and I will not have two words, nor will I play. If you have my letter, show it me; I shall then know it. If true, I will not change; if false, it is wrong; for what passed was for two months. I do not wish to play, nor do I wish to injure yourself or the British Government.

We have been friends with the British for many years; our friendship is that of brothers. I came here on your account, and wish you to send Sheik Tyeb and Jaffer to me, as witnesses to all I say. On your account I have nothing wrong to say to them, and I will say whatever words I have to give you.

When they come to me, you will say in your heart, there is no wrong in the Sultan, nor is there any fear, for the English and myself are one. Do not permit anything to frighten you from permitting them to come to me. I came here on account of our friendship, and I will not have two words, when Jaffer and Sheik Tyeb reach me, and whatever words I have, you shall receive by them.

With salaams,

*M. Houssain.*

— No. 115. —

No. 115.  
Captain Haines to  
the Sultan of Aden,  
25 December 1838.

Captain *Haines* to the Sultan of Aden.

25 December 1838.

YOUR letter of yesterday was mere play, and I observe you have no inclination to apologize to the British Government for the past bad conduct of your tribe. In consequence of which, I inform you in writing that the war you commenced will not terminate between the British and yourself until you make the apology I require; and further, I will not answer any letter you may send until I receive your application for forgiveness. I have already told you, that the British in a few days will take the land, and in that case you will not obtain one mensurie from Government.

The treachery and falsehood of your tribe has brought the anger of the British on your head in your old age.

*S. B. Haines.*

— No. 116. —

No. 116.  
Sultan Hamed ben  
Abdulla, Futhellee,  
to Captain Haines,  
31 December 1838.

Sultan *Hamed ben Abdulla*, Futhellee, to Captain *Haines*.

Received 31 December 1838.

I SENT you a letter with an account of my Bedouins being assembled, and you did not answer it. The Abdalees write me they are anxious to meet me, but I have not given them a direct answer. In my heart I wish that you and I should meet at Saylan before the ships reach you, and when we meet I have a great deal to say to you that I do not wish any one to hear. If we meet I shall give you news and put you in the right path, from which you will gain profit. When we meet, I shall see if you wish much or little. Let no one come between us. If you have nothing in your heart write me word, and whatever is for my heart write me.

I write



I write this in haste, for I wish an immediate answer. I shall be glad to meet, and then see if you listen to me or them, for they are great enemies of mine, and all shall be on my head. I wish for an answer. I beg of you to give me something to give the Bedouins; who, if you wish it, will fight for you. If you do send anything, send it by Russool. I wish the man to come on Wednesday. If we do not meet, and I do not hear your language, I cannot direct you. If we meet, it will be between us.

Sultan *Hamed ben Abdulla*, Fethelee.

— No. 117. —

Captain *Haines* to Sultan *Hamed ben Abdulla*, Fethelee.

31 December 1838.

I RECEIVED your letter, and return you my best thanks for your kindness and attention, and only regret that duty prevents my meeting you, for it would afford me pleasure. But the steamer will probably be here to-morrow, and the troops may be hourly expected; I therefore could not leave, particularly as I may be of some assistance to the military commandant when he arrives. We are still at war with the Abdalees, and likely to be so, until he apologizes to the British for the several insults offered them. I have at all times given you the news, and you know I am in all my actions guided by the orders of Government. When troops arrive, I have no doubt but the orders will be to compel the Abdalees to evacuate Aden, agreeably to their bond; and they certainly deserve sufficient punishment to prevent their committing similar acts. We have lately had no fighting; we only blockade. Implements of war have arrived, but as yet remain in the ship they came in.

Sultan M. Houssain is in Aden, and since he received information of the British troops embarking, he is inclined for peace. But I put no faith in either appearances or promises, having previously received both verbal and written, and all have been broken; and when a nation or a tribe repeatedly breaks faith, they become known, and their character is held in but little estimation.

*S. B. Haines.*

No. 117.

Captain *Haines* to  
Sultan *Hamed ben*  
*Abdulla*, Fethelee,  
31 December 1838.

— No. 118. —

Sultan *Hamed ben Abdulla*, Fethelee, to Captain *Haines*.

You must know I sent a man for an answer, which was to reach me on the Wednesday, but no answer has yet arrived. I am now in conference with the Abdalees, and I wish for your news. You and I must meet, and kind words pass. I send Syed Aloose ben Hydroosse to you, and he will bring me an answer. In my heart I wish your answer, to know if I should come, for I wish to speak with you, and we can then converse on all subjects. Send me an answer quick, and if God please, our friendship will never diminish. Written on the morning of Wednesday. Syed Aloose will see you, and tell you what I wish.

*Hamed ben Abdulla*, Fethelee.

No. 118.

Sultan *Hamed ben*  
*Abdulla*, Fethelee,  
to Captain *Haines*.

— No. 119. —

Captain *Haines* to Sultan *Hamed ben Abdulla*, Fethelee.

2 January 1839.

I RECEIVED your letter of to-day by Reshid, and inform you that your last letter to me was answered the same evening I received it; the boat conveying it has probably been detained by strong winds. I have nothing more to say to the Abdalees, or of them. I remain now for further orders from the Government.

I cannot meet you in the Abdalee territory until the troops come; but I feel much obliged to you for your anxiety to see me on account of old friendship. When all is settled relative to Aden, I shall be happy to see you, or even now, should you find it convenient to come on board.

With every kind compliment.

*S. B. Haines.*

No. 119.

Captain *Haines* to  
Sultan *Hamed ben*  
*Abdulla*, Fethelee,  
2 January 1839.



— No. 120. —

No. 120.

Syed Zain Hydroosse to Captain Haines, 8 January 1839.

*Syed Zain Hydroosse to Captain Haines.*

8 January 1839.

WITH salaams. Written from Aden, where all are well. I now inform you that I held conversation with you yesterday, and promised to come on board again this morning. I could not do so on account of wind and rain, and after it subsided, there was not time. I send this letter by a servant of mine. I wish Sheik Tyeb and Moolla Jaffer Abool to come to me. I write this that they may both come, and we may meet, and then I will explain all the Sultan's wishes, which they can inform you of, and all will be well, if God so wishes it. I send my servant that he may bring them to town, with salaams. Write me an answer. Your letter is by me, and when they come and talk they shall return with it. Your answer to this letter I will show to the Sultan.

(seal of) *Syed Zain ben Aloose al Hydroosse.*

— No. 121. —

No. 121.

Apology inclosed in the preceding Letter.

7 January 1839.

FROM Sultan M. Houssain Fudthel to Captain Haines, with salaams, and the usual compliments from M. Houssain Fudthel to his friend Captain Haines. God preserve you! Written in Aden. I give you to understand I came from Lahedge to meet you, after Reshid ben Abdulla had told me my son Hamed and the Bedouins had done wrong, and that the English were very angry. They have done wrong, and I am not willing for this, and never could be, for it is bad, their acting so towards Government or yourself. On this account, I send Syed Zain, Syed Aloose, and Reshid to you, to solicit pardon on my account, and on account of my son and Bedouins. I shall be glad to be friends with you, and our hearts to be one. I shall be glad to be friends with you. I wish it on account of old friendship—friendship of a very old date. With salaams.

(seal of) *Sultan M. Houssain ben Fudthel, Abdalee.*

— No. 122. —

No. 122.

Captain Haines to Syed Zain ben Aloose al Hydroosse, 8 January 1839.

*Captain Haines to Syed Zain ben Aloose al Hydroosse.*

8 January 1839.

WITH the usual compliments. When you visited me yesterday, it was on your promise, which I respected, that I granted peace until to day; that promise has not been performed, for the apology is not the one I demand, on which account I return it. By your letter I observe the Sultan is not disposed to ask forgiveness in a proper manner, on which account the truce terminates at sunset, for it is by war alone that the respect due to the British can be enforced.

With compliments,  
*S. B. Haines.*

— No. 123. —

No. 123.

Captain Haines to the Secretary to the Bombay Government, 10 January 1839.

*Captain Haines to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.*

Aden, 10 January 1839.

Sir,  
IN continuation of my report, I have the honour to inform you, for the information of Government, that up to the last hour of the steamer's departure, the Sultan appears determined not to deliver up Aden, agreeably to his written promise; he is willing to make a trifling apology, but not one I could accept after his shameful behaviour.

The sight of troops will bring him to his senses.

I have, &c.  
*S. B. Haines.*



## — No. 124. —

The Secretary with Governor-general to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

Sir,

Camp at Ghoranub, 21 January 1839.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3d ultimo, and to state in reply, that upon a very careful perusal of all the papers which regard the question, the Governor-general is satisfied that the course pursued by the Government of Bombay, in adopting measures to enforce our just rights at Aden, is warranted, and proper.

The Sultan of Aden had acceded to the demands of reparation for the plunder of the ship Doria Dowlut, and had agreed to the cession of the port of Aden, for a sum stated, and the last signature of the treaty, and confirmation of his promise, was only delayed by accidental circumstances.

The demand for the fulfilment of this agreement has been met by language and by conduct the most violent and the most insulting. The Sultan's son says, "I am above you, and above my father. If you come to the gate, I will permit you to enter, and there be upon your head; this is the law of the Bedouins." Threats were uttered that throats should be cut in the tents, and the ships taken by boats. The promised satisfaction for the plunder of the Doria Dowlut is refused, and supplies and water are denied; and under these circumstances, whilst his Lordship yet hopes that no measures of violence will be necessary, he cannot but approve the collection and dispatch of the force in question, which has been in any event required to procure reparation for the injuries to which we have been subjected.

I have, &c.

*H. Torrens.*

No. 124.

The Secretary with the Governor-general to the Secretary to the Bombay Government,  
21 January 1839.

## — No. 125. —

The Bombay Government to the Secret Committee.

Sirs,

Bombay Castle, 20 February 1839.

WITH reference to the promise contained in the concluding paragraph of our Political Secretary's letter to Mr. Melvill, dated the 19th ultimo, to the effect that we should hereafter do ourselves the honour of communicating our sentiments on the three dispatches from Captain Haines therewith forwarded, dated the 6th, 9th, and 10th of the same month, (which had been received by the Berenice steamer, as the Hugh Lindsay was on the point of leaving Bombay with the overland mails), we beg to state that no measures appeared to us called for on those dispatches, farther than to approve of Captain Haines's proceedings at Aden, as therein reported; to forward a copy of the same for the information of the Governor-general of India, and to request the opinion of the Superintendent of the Indian Navy on the subject of the recommendation made by Captain Haines in the seventh paragraph of his dispatch dated the 16th of January, relative to the employment at Aden of the boat captured from the Sultan of that place. The opinion of the Superintendent having been favourable to the plan recommended by Captain Haines, that officer has been authorized to carry the same into effect.

On this occasion we feel considerable gratification in forwarding to your Committee a copy of a letter from the Secretary with the Governor-general of India, dated the 21st ultimo, in which it is stated, with reference to our proceedings reported to your Committee in our dispatch dated the 4th December last, "that, upon a very careful perusal of all the papers which regard the question, the Governor-general is satisfied that the course pursued by the Government of Bombay, in adopting measures to enforce our just rights at Aden, is warranted and proper."

We have, &c.

*James Farish,*

*G. W. Anderson,*

*J. A. Dunlop.*

No. 125.

The Bombay Government to the Secret Committee,  
20 February 1839.



## — No 126. —

Captain *Haines* to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

No. 126.  
 Captain Haines to  
 the Secretary to the  
 Bombay Govern-  
 ment,  
 15 January 1839.

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Sir,

Aden, 15 January 1839.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, for the information of Government, that during the many skirmishes which have taken place between the boats of the Company's sloop of war *Coote* and the shore, the crew of that vessel, assisted by Lieutenant Evans, of the Bombay European Regiment, Lieutenant Western, of the Bombay Engineers, and the detachment of the former officer's regiment, have behaved with great gallantry in every instance. It is wonderful that only two men of the *Coote* were wounded.

In the last skirmish of the 11th of January, under the command of Lieutenant Johnston, they were assisted by the *Mahé* schooner, and the mortar-boat *Choki*. The action lasted for three or four hours, doing the enemy considerable damage, by destroying about 12 feet of their battery without injury to themselves.

I have, &amp;c.

*S. B. Haines.*

## — No. 127. —

Captain *Haines* to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

No. 127.  
 Captain Haines to  
 the Secretary to the  
 Bombay Govern-  
 ment,  
 24 January 1839.

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Sir,

Aden, 24 January 1839.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, for the information of the Governor in Council, that from the period of my last communication by the *Berenice*, with the arrival of the troops, no correspondence took place between the Sultan and myself. He had made up his mind to follow the advice and wishes of his son and chieftains in defending the place against the British, and, during the interval, he had strengthened the fortifications as much as his means enabled him; he also endeavoured to buy over other Bedouins to assist him.

The information I received after the troops arrived, proved correct, for when the town was stormed, we found one of the guns mounted, with three embrasures built round it, and there were new trucks made, but not bound with iron, ready for the other. They had filled up sand bags inside the low battery on *Seerah*, and built a battery on its summit. They also prepared provisions and water, with plenty of ammunition, for a stout resistance.

I cannot but regret being obliged to use force, knowing how particularly anxious the Governor in Council was in the hope that there would be no necessity for it; which hope I was sanguine in myself until the last minute; still I conscientiously felt that I endeavoured all in my power, by kind and conciliatory reasoning, to bring the affair to a peaceable conclusion, and that it would have been imprudent to have longer delayed acting, when the means were in my power, and the troops had not many days' water remaining; besides which, every day's delay tended to increase their numerical strength: and that their minds were made up to never make a peaceable transfer, there can be no doubt, by the preparation they made the last few days prior to its capture.

I have, &amp;c.

*S. B. Haines.*

## — No. 128. —

Captain *Haines* to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

No. 128.  
 Captain Haines to  
 the Secretary to the  
 Bombay Govern-  
 ment,  
 25 January 1839.

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Sir,

Aden, 25 January 1839.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, for the information of the Governor in Council, that the force for the occupation of Aden arrived on the 16th of January, when I immediately dispatched a letter into the town, addressed to all the chieftains. The answer was frivolous and unsatisfactory; and with it I received a secret message



message from Reshid Abdulla, saying, they only wanted time to obtain Bedouins, and they were preparing the great guns for service.

In consequence of the above information, I considered it advisable to lose no time in capturing it, more particularly as we had but few days' water for the troops, and I therefore wrote a letter to Captain Smith, and a letter to Major Bailie, to which I received answers.

In offering an opinion on the plan of attack, I gave to Captain Smith a rough sketch, laying the Coote close to the battery, with the troops to storm in two divisions (when the fortifications were destroyed). This idea was followed in the attack, with the only exception of Captain Smith wishing to place his own ship where I placed the Coote, and the latter in Hokat Bay. Captain Smith accepted my services in taking his ship in, and I feel proud to say, that he was pleased with the position I gave her.

Every thing being prepared, with the troops in the boats under cover of the ships, and the reserve on board the Company's sloop of war Coote, the Volage stood in, and took up a position at 9 h. 30 m. A.M., within 300 yards of their strongest battery; the Cruizer ten minutes after took up hers, as did the schooner Mahé in Hokat Bay. The fire of the three vessels was tremendous and destructive. The battery and tower were soon brought down; but still the defenders of Seerah lay under cover of the point, ready to fire on the troops as they pushed off. The Mahé schooner weighed, and took up another position, flanking the Bedouins at 50 yards distance, when the fire on her was very heavy, but her return soon drove them out, and they retreated and fired from every cover they could find, until from the cross-fire of the Volage, Cruizer, Coote, Mahé, and bomb vessel, they were afraid to show themselves.

At 11 h. 45 m. the troops left in two divisions, each party landing nearly at the same interval, and met but little opposition; the Sultan, his sons, and the greater part of the Bedouins having retreated out of the town on the boats pushing off for the shore.

About ten minutes after the landing, the British flag was hoisted on the Sultan's palace; and about 12 h. 30 m. the boat of the Mahé schooner, and one from the Volage, took possession of Seerah, and hoisted the union, taking 139 prisoners on it, who were marched into the town.

I could not but admire the splendid fire from the shipping and mortar vessel; and the behaviour of the little Mahé drew forth the admiration of every person; and it is only wonderful how the prisoners lay so close under the rocks, or that any of them escaped.

Nothing could have been more regular than the landing; the men were steady to a degree; they behaved with courage, and stormed the place gallantly. But what is still more to be admired, and a greater proof of their discipline is, that, after landing, neither male, female, or property was molested.

The loss on the side of the British, as will be seen by Major Bailie's letter, which I have the honour to forward, was very trivial, until the unfortunate insurrection of the prisoners from Seerah. The whole loss in killed and wounded, including navy and army, is 15, eight of which occurred after the place was in our possession.

The loss of the enemy has been very severe; 139 are now said to be missing, besides many wounded inland; and we have 25 men too severely wounded to return inland: among them one chieftain, Sheik Raggeeb Hazzabee, and Alee Salaam, a nephew of the Sultan.

I have supplied the unfortunate sufferers with food, and everything to make them as comfortable as circumstances will admit of, and they receive kind medical attention from Dr. Malcolmson, of the 24th regiment. I have also given a few dollars for the support of their families.

My best thanks are due to Captain Smith, the senior naval officer, for most willingly attending to every suggestion, and particularly in preventing his men from plundering and insulting the people.

My best thanks are also due to Major Bailie for his kind attention to my requests, both at the period of storm and afterwards. The inhabitants were driven for safety to the Musjeed El Hydroosse, where a strong guard was placed by Major Bailie for their security.

On the day after the storm the inhabitants, afraid to return to their houses, would not do so until I reasoned with them, and informed them I was about taking up my quarters in the town.



It would appear like presumption in me to point out peculiar instances of merit. I therefore leave it to the senior naval and military officers to do it, and merely state that it is my firm conviction that British soldiers and sailors could not have behaved better.

I have, &c.

*S. B. Haines.*

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— No. 129. —

No. 129.  
Captain Haines to  
Sultan M. Houssain  
Fudthel and all the  
Chieftains of the  
Abdalee Tribe,  
16 January 1839.

Captain *Haines* to Sultan *M. Houssain Fudthel*, and all the Chieftains of the Abdalee Tribe.

Aden Bay, 16 January 1839.

WITH compliments. I inform you a powerful British force has arrived for the occupation of Aden; and, to convince you of the kind consideration of the Bombay Government, you are allowed until sunset for the peaceable transfer of the town and land, as previously agreed upon between us. Let me assure you opposition will be useless, and will only cause loss of life and injury to your house and tribe.

By your repeated insults, and declaration of war against the English, you have annulled all previous promises made on their part; and I assure you, as a friend that if you do not now act wisely, when so favourable an offer is made, you will entail ruin on your tribe.

If you apologize and send three chieftains as hostages to secure the fulfilment of the peaceable transfer of Aden, yourself, chieftains, and followers will be permitted to quit, with arms, accoutrements, and private baggage, and the towns people and property will be respected; but if you in the last hour will not listen to kind advice, whatever injury befalls your tribe, will be your own fault.

*S. B. Haines.*

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— No. 130. —

No. 130.  
Sultan M. Houssain  
on the part of all,  
to Captain Haines,  
16 January 1839.

Sultan *M. Houssain*, on the part of all, to Captain *Haines*.

16 January 1839.

FROM Bunder Aden. You will know I wish two men to come to you at six o'clock; but I wish for six days, so as to assemble all my chiefs and syeds, and then if we all agree I will give you an answer, and then send Reshid and Syed Zain to you to settle. If you are willing to grant six days, let me know, and every thing will be well.

Sultan *M. Houssain Fudthel*.

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— No. 131. —

No. 131.  
Major Bailie to  
Captain Haines,  
22 January 1839.

Major *Bailie* to Captain *Haines*.

Aden, 22 January 1839.

Sir,  
I HAVE the pleasure to state, for the information of the Governor in Council of Bombay, that the combined force under Captain Smith, R. N., and myself, have succeeded in capturing the fortified island, town, and pass of Aden, with, I am happy to say, a comparatively small loss of life. This fortunate result would have been still more satisfactory, had it not been for an affray which took place in attempting to disarm 139 Arab prisoners, sent by Lieutenant Dobree, of Her Majesty's frigate *Volage*, who effected their escape, after having killed three, and wounded five men, with their creases, with a loss on their part of five killed, and seven mortally wounded, having only succeeded in previously depriving them of their matchlocks.

The town is now in such a state of quiet, the inhabitants returning daily to their houses, that I think you may take up your abode in the town, or any other place you may choose to fix on.

The



The officer on picquet, at the pass on the northern side leading to the interior, has orders to permit all unarmed people to pass out; but I have given orders that no one shall be admitted, except people with supplies, without an express order from myself.

I should be most happy to afford you every assistance in my power, connected with my military duties here.

The Pier Zodeh at the Tomb of the Patron Saint of the Mahomedans of Aden had taken charge of the inhabitants, male and female, and on my advance, immediately sent a flag of truce, which was respected, and their privacy not intruded on in any way. He has sent me a few matchlocks but no creases, and has pledged himself, that there are no more arms left amongst the few Arabs belonging to Aden, at present in the town.

I have not met with any of the chiefs mentioned by you in your letter of the 17th instant. Should you obtain any intelligence of the proceedings in the interior, I shall feel much obliged for any communication; and any assistance you can afford the commissariat in provisioning the troops, will be of the greatest public service, as it will enable the officer in charge to husband his Bombay stock.

I have, &c.

*J. Bailie.*

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— No. 132. —

Captain *Haines* to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

SIR,

(No date.)

No. 132.  
Captain Haines to  
Secretary to the  
Bombay Govern-  
ment.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that Sheik Raggeeb Hazzabee died this morning, of the wounds received on the day of the storm; his last wish was for his matchlock to be presented to his son, when peace and friendship was made. While suffering from pain, and carefully attended by Doctor Malcolmson of the 24th regiment, I supplied him with every comfort obtainable, at Government expense; appointed servants to attend him, and placed him under the care of Syed Aloose, a relation by marriage. I wrote inland to his relations, begging them to come and stay with him, out of regard for him and friendship for myself. My wish was attended to, and his nephew and son came in. Mortification, however, soon carried him off, leaving eight sons and six daughters to deplore his loss. Every honour was paid to his remains; and the poor young chieftain left me, depressed in spirit, but pleased. I presented the family with the sum of 200 dollars, and told the son that his father's dying wish should not be forgotten. I hope the Governor in Council will approve of my evincing generosity. The chieftain was a brave man, and the most influential person of his tribe, which are our near neighbours. Such conduct has created a favourable feeling in our favour among his followers, and they commenced sending in camels to carry up our baggage, stores, and also supplies.

I take the liberty of mentioning, that a small annual sum given in charity to his family, would tend materially to disseminate kind feelings of friendship towards the English, and secure the chieftains of the tribe in our interest.

I have also provisioned the Sultan's nephew, and 25 wounded Bedouins, and sent 20 dollars to the former's children.

I have, &c.

*S. B. Haines.*

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— No. 133. —

Captain *Haines* to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

SIR,

Aden, 28 January 1839.

No. 133.  
Captain Haines to  
the Secretary to the  
Bombay Govern-  
ment,  
28 January 1839.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, for the information of the Governor-in-Council, that my first endeavour after obtaining possession of Aden, was to encourage the inhabitants in their usual occupations, and in giving them confidence. In this I have been quite successful. I also immediately wrote Sultan M. Houssain and Hamed a letter, and to the chieftains of the Hazzabee and



Sullamee subdivisions, Haggrabee and Houshibee tribes and others, offering to give their wounded medical assistance, and to permit them to have free and friendly intercourse with the town.

This had the desired effect. The chieftains all expressed a wish to be on terms of peace and friendship; and, to show they were sincere, sent in supplies and camels to assist in landing Government stores.

I also wrote letters to the different ports on the coast, informing the governors that Aden was free for trade, being now a British port.

On the 26th, I received a letter from Sultan M. Houssain, brought by M. Houssain Shah Mootee, whom the Sultan sent to solicit peace, and to beg we would not march into the interior. He further informed me, that if the English were not satisfied with the punishment they had, by God's assistance, inflicted on him, he would deliver himself up as a prisoner; but if, on the contrary, the Government were inclined to forgive him, he would like to send M. Houssain Shah Mootee, Syed M. Houssain's son-in-law, and Hassan Cutief, his vizier, as accredited agents to me, to conclude a treaty of peace, friendship, and commerce, between the British and himself.

In reply, I stated, that the Bombay Government, in their last dispatch to me, regretted even the probability of my being obliged to use force to compel the performance of the transfer, and that I was directed to exert myself to prevent such an occurrence, and to use every mild measure prior to resorting to it, which the Sultan acknowledged had been done; and that I was convinced when my report of the capture of Aden by bombardment and storm reached the Governor-in-Council, that the event, though redeeming the British character in the eyes of the natives of the coast, would still be deplored by them, as their wishes were that blood should not have been spilt, but for a peaceable and friendly transfer to have been made.

I also told him that I should be very happy to see the agents of the Sultan, or the Sultan in person, and that it was not the intention of Government to possess one inch of ground beyond the line previously laid down and agreed upon between the Sultan and myself; and that all I now wished, was to create feelings of friendship, instead of enmity, and to open a free and friendly intercourse between the British Government and other States; but if we were interfered with, it was natural to conclude we should resent it.

The agents returned to Lahedge on the 27th.

I have, &c.,

*S. B. Haines.*

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— No. 134. —

*M. Houssain Shah Mootee to Captain Haines.*

No. 134.  
M. Houssain Shah  
Mootee to Captain  
Haines.

WITH salaams: from Lahedge. I have heard the news, and now inform you, I am a merchant of Hadhar-el-mout; every country knows me; every one knows now that Aden belongs to the English. I have merchandize: I wish to send it to Aden for Maculla and Shaha: on this I inform you, and wish for an answer, and wait for it. I wish to come, but I have no news. If I send it, it will be in charge of Mussand. I know the English never oppress, but treat all with peace. I wait to know your answer. When it comes, I will inform all the merchants of it, if you wish to arrange matters with the merchants.

*Houssain Shah Mootee.*

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— No. 135. —

*Sultan M. Houssain to Captain Haines.*

No. 135.  
Sultan M. Houssain  
to Captain Haines,  
21 January 1839.

21 January 1839.

YOUR letter reached me, and it was good, and God's will. I send a letter in this to you, and also sent one before. What was in my heart I wrote to you. Between us, we are friends; we have eaten together, and there is no fear; and the English are not treacherous, and nothing bad shall come between us. If it pleases



pleases God, the English and ourselves will ever be one, and there is nothing bad. It was so when we met last year; but the Bedouins have too much talk, and it is not us. With you there is only one word, and I do not wish anything bad. I had no faithful adviser to show me the right path, and I am greatly oppressed in spirits, and I tell you now, your advice will guide me, for I regard you much. In the first place, I want to be under the English flag, and a servant of the Government. I will inform all the Bedouins that between us there are words. It was my son's fault. I will not say he has not sense. When he wrote to you in Aden, I heard it from the Bedouins that Hamed had done it. I wished to meet you, but the Bedouins ruined me. I wrote to you, but you thought me treacherous. I should not be pleased that the Bedouins should injure you. I wrote for Tyeb and Jaffer to meet and talk to them, and they could inform you. It was God's will. But to-day I am under the English Government. The Bedouins will not now listen to me, but I will hold council with them. But when we meet, all will be settled.

(Seal of) Sultan *M. Houssain*.

— No. 136. —

*Hydra bin Maidee bin Alee Hazzabee* to Captain Haines.

22 January 1839.

FROM Bier Hamed. Your letter reached me, and you will understand I sincerely thank you. I told Sultan M. Houssain you wished him well, but he would not hear. It is customary for principals to treat with kindness. You wrote to me to say that Aden had fallen, and that if I wished to be friends I should write to Government. I much wish for friendship. We are old friends. My words and feelings are known to Reshid and Hydroosse, and to others. I only look to my country, and do not interfere with others. But that dog forced me to send a few men, who did not fight. I sent ten, but they are not hurt; they were at a distance. If any men were hurt, I certainly would send them for medicine. We are one, and I should like to erect and confirm friendship, and to obtain a letter to say I shall be free, and that others should not molest me. Afterwards, if I do wrong, you may do as you like. Keep kindness in your heart. God bless you.

*Hydra bin Maidee*.

— No. 137. —

*Sheik Maidee bin Alee Houssain Tobaree* to Captain Haines.

23 January 1839.

WITH salaams, &c. Your letter reached me, my friend. What has passed between M. Houssain and yourselves has been God's wish, but the poor have been injured; you wrote to me, and I give an answer. We are poor. Our country is woody, and we sell it. I wish the communication open, and if I act well I know you will treat me kindly. I now give you the information. My people with M. Houssain have been seriously eaten up, and there are many wounded. I was not with them. I am your servant, and will do whatever you require.

*Sheik Maidee*.

— No. 138. —

Captain Haines to Sultan *M. Houssain*, and his son, Sultan *Hamed*.

23 January 1839.

YOUR letter reached me safe, and afforded me much gratification; I will, by the first steamer, forward it to Bombay, and I feel assured the Bombay Government will act generously towards yourself and family. I will also clearly state facts to the Government, so that they can judge. Peace is between us, and all respect shall be paid to any one of your tribe coming into Aden; and I offer you free

No. 136.

*Hydra bin Maidee bin Alee Hazzabee* to Captain Haines, 22 January 1839.

No. 137.

*Sheik Maidee bin Alee Houssain Tobaree* to Captain Haines, 23 January 1839.

No. 138.

Captain Haines to Sultan *M. Houssain* and his son Sultan *Hamed*, 23 January 1839.



intercourse for the people of Lahedge to export their goods, or to sell the produce of your land. I only wish in my heart both your son and yourself had followed my advice; no delay would have taken place, and all our affairs would have been arranged on most advantageous terms to your house. I even now feel assured, that, if you act up to the letter you have sent me, Government will settle everything to your satisfaction. Consider me as the friend of your house, and I will offer you the advice of a brother. You know I have never deceived, nor will I ever. Let us forget the past, and open a smooth and lasting path before us. With kind compliments to your sons and self,

Believe me your friend,

S. B. Haines.

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— No. 139. —

No. 139.  
Captain Haines to  
Abdulla Hazzabee,  
Hamed Hazzabee,  
Fudthel Hazzaab,  
Hussan bin Nansar  
Hazzaab,  
23 January 1839.

Captain *Haines* to *Abdulla Hazzabee, Hamed Hazzabee, Fudthel Hazzaab, Hussan bin Nansar Hazzaab.*

23 January 1839.

I RECEIVED your letter, and feel happy to find you acted contrary to your own wishes in not peaceably restoring Aden, after a written transfer had been made; and you must be aware it was quite contrary to the inclination of the British to wish for a moment to use force, but we were compelled to do so, owing to the repeated insults. The consequence is, that many fine brave men of your tribe have fallen, or have been injured; among the latter is Sheik Raggeeb Hazzabee, a brave man. Do not fear but that he shall be well taken care of, and every attention paid to his sufferings and wants. I have placed him in charge of Syed Zain; and Moolla Jaffer shall see him daily, and that his wants and wishes are complied with; when well (which, please God, he will be shortly) he will return to his native soil, and, until then, any of his relatives or friends can see him, or remain with him as men of peace.

We are now friends, and between brave men who have fought fairly, there is no enmity or secret animosity; those who have fallen it has been God's will, and the chance of war. We are now friends, and when things are properly arranged, you will see how advantageous our friendship is.

I wish you all well, and I send my kind compliments to all, and shall be happy to see you at any time.

S. B. Haines.

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— No. 140. —

No. 140.  
Captain Haines to  
Syed M. Houssain  
bin Syed West bin  
Hamed bin Alea  
Suffram,  
23 January 1839.

Captain *Haines* to *Syed M. Houssain bin Syed West bin Hamed bin Alea Suffram.*

23 January 1839.

WITH compliments. I have not had time to write to you, but shall feel happy, when things are settled, to convince you that you never had occasion to fear me, and to this day I regret that you did not meet me on board, for it would have saved the lives of many poor men, and have probably brought everything to a favourable conclusion. At present all is past, and we are now friends, and when our affairs are arranged, we shall, I hope, have a personal interview. Until then, you may assure all, that whoever wishes to come to Aden, either to visit, sell, or purchase, there is no fear, for the gates are open to all peaceable men; and where our flag flies, there is no fear or apprehension. I feel happy to hear you are well.

S. B. Haines.

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— No. 141. —

No. 141.  
Captain Haines to  
Sheik Maidee bin  
A'lee,  
23 January 1839.

Captain *Haines* to *Sheik Maidee bin Alee.*

23 January 1839.

I RECEIVED your letter, and offer you my best thanks. We know each other well, and have been friends. What difference has occurred has been the fortune of war.



war. When the interest of two Powers is the same, it is impolitic to be at variance, and I assure you in my heart I have no malice for the balls that have whizzed by me in fair fight. Aden was ours by treaty, which by treachery was broken through. We were insulted, and obliged for our own respect to use force. It fell to our superior strength, and we have possession. The flag of England is flying on its walls, which affords protection to all merchants, and peaceably disposed men.

Sheik Maidee and his tribe are now our friends. I shall therefore be happy to see them introduce the produce of their soil into Aden, and a fair and favourable barter exchanged. Send your camels laden, and the guide shall have security, and money will be paid; and when things are settled, which will be the case very shortly, we will meet as old friends.

S. B. Haines.

— No. 142. —

Captain Haines to Hydra bin Maidee.

23 January 1839.

I PERFECTLY understand you were not opposed to the British, and that the few followers that were in Aden on the day we attacked it, were forced there. Aden is open for the produce of your land, and the enterprize of your merchants, and I shall feel happy to see supplies enter daily. Your letter of friendship and your wish shall be forwarded to Bombay in a few days. We now understand each other, and are friends.

S. B. Haines.

— No. 143. —

Captain Haines to M. Houssain Shah Mootee.

23 January 1839.

MANY thanks for your letter. The English are in Aden, but will molest no one. You as the principal merchant in the interior, must know that under no flag is there so much protection or encouragement given to trade, as under the English. Your goods can pass through the gate of Aden, and from thence be exported wherever you wish. I shall be delighted to see you at any time you wish to pay me a visit, for, though personally unknown to you, I regard you as a friend, for you acted both wisely and kindly. Come then as soon as you like, and you shall receive from me every respect.

S. B. Haines.

— No. 144. —

Captain Haines to Sultan Momch bin Sallar Houshibee.

23 January 1839.

WITH the usual compliments. You must know that we have been necessitated to capture Aden, and to retain it; and I give you this information, so that you may assure your tribe that the ports of Aden are open to them, and that I hope free intercourse will take place. I have always heard you are a just and good man, and I have no doubt but that the English and yourselves will be great friends, which is our wish. Accept my friendship and good wishes.

S. B. Haines.

No. 142.

Captain Haines to  
Hydra bin Maidee,  
23 January 1839.

No. 143.

Captain Haines to  
M. Houssain Shah  
Mootee,  
23 January 1839.

No. 144.

Captain Haines to  
Sultan Momch bin  
Sallar Houshibee,  
23 January 1839.



— No. 145. —

No. 145.  
Sultan M. Houssain to Captain Haines,  
26 January 1839.

Sultan M. Houssain to Captain Haines.

26 January 1839.

YOUR letter reached me on Friday. I observed and understood all you wrote. It is not my pleasure now to write, for I should wish you to understand if what you have heard is truth; I will now only tell you truth. The Adenites and Bedouins talk much and incorrectly, and exaggerate; you have plenty of Bedouins come to you; I received news from Aden. Ask the Syeds for truth. I know news has reached you that we are collecting Bedouins and intend treachery: between me and your Government there is friendship, and between us also; we now feel for each other. Between us the year before we had good and friendly conversation. Pray do not hear what reports people bring you, nor will I. When we held conversation, Reshid was present, and we both imagined he was not true; but he has proved himself sincere and faithful to both. Whatever Reshid now says I know to be truth. Please to send me an answer to quiet my feelings; I have now nothing to do with any one: the Bedouins act for themselves. Keep in your heart I have no unkind feelings towards you. Whatever you wish I will do. What I wish can be done by Syed Hydroosse and Reshid: they know all I wish for.

With salaams,

Sultan M. Houssain.

— No. 146. —

No. 146.  
Captain Haines to the Secretary to the Bombay Government,  
5 February 1839.

Captain Haines to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

Aden, 5 February 1839.

Sir,  
I HAVE the honour to inform you, that Sheik Mahomed Hazzabee came into Aden on the 29th ultimo, for the purpose of making peace between his tribe and the British.

I received him with respect, and entertained him at the Government expense; and on the 31st returned his visit, and entered into friendly arrangements, each party receiving for the present assurances of friendship and peace.

On the 31st January I received an answer from Sultan M. Houssain, and also a visit from his son-in-law, Syed M. Houssain, and Vizier Hassan Cutief. They were received with honour, and I have entertained them at the Government expense while concluding a treaty of peace.

I have also received three Syeds from the districts of Vatech, for the purpose of forming friendly arrangements, which I have deemed it advisable to do.

On the 2d instant I concluded a treaty of friendship and peace with the Sultan, through his accredited agent, and son-in-law, Syed M. Houssain, and have also since, at the Sultan's own request, agreed to another short treaty for the present.

I trust my quietly and peaceably composing the feelings of the native chieftains will be approved of, and all that I have done will meet with the approbation of Government.

I inclose copies of the treaties entered into, and the last letter of Sultan M. Houssain to myself.

I have, &amp;c.

S. B. Haines.

— No. 147. —

No. 147.  
Sultan M. Houssain to Captain Haines,  
31 January 1839.

Sultan M. Houssain to Captain Haines.

31 January 1839.

WITH compliments. God preserve you my friend. Your letter reached me, and Syed M. Houssain and Hassan Abdulla Cutief will meet you in Aden. Whatever you wish to do with them in my behalf, do. You wrote to me not to play; I will



I will not: and you tell truth, but there are plenty who tell falsehoods. To-day they get nothing from me, and therefore tell you; you are a sensible man, and will distinguish truth from falsehood, and will soon know who tells falsehoods. If it pleases God you shall never know but truth from me. I now will wait in my country and trust to you to do what you can for me; also on account of our old friendship. I trust in God and the kindness of your Government and self. I am now very awkwardly placed; the Bedouins accuse me of lying, and in your opinion it is the same. I have no other complaints. I trust in God and your Government. If any one here has bad feelings, God knows it, and you will find it out, and a bad heart God is not pleased with.

(Seal of) Sultan M. Houssain.

— No. 148. —

Captain Haines to Sultan M. Houssain.

(Extract.)

3 February 1839.

WITH kind compliments. Your letter by Syed M. Houssain West reached me. You wrote that the Hazzabees were plundering. It is true; but since I have entered into a treaty of peace, there has been nothing of the kind. You wrote saying that you threw yourself on the kindness of Government, and will agree with whatever Government wishes. My words on the part of Government, are one, and they are of friendship for you now. Do not be oppressed at heart; forget what has passed. I inform you that I have written to the Bombay Government on your account, and they will, I feel assured, act generously towards you. In a few days, I hope to send you an answer from them that will please you; you will then know that my heart bears no malice. You are Sultan of Lahedge, and will not be molested; command your own subjects as you did before. Be kind to the poor and do not oppress them. Between the Sultans inland and Government there will be friendship. I have written to Government that Syed M. Houssain may keep the roads clear as before; for we wish for free intercourse and friendship, not oppression. We are now friends and are one.

You say my words are true, and from this let me advise you never to have two words, but keep peace and friendship in your heart, and protect your people.

I will send you an answer when I again hear from Bombay.

S. B. Haines.

— No. 149. —

TREATY between the *English* and the *Hazzabee* Tribe.

31 January 1839.

THIS agreement is between the Hazzabees for peace on the part of Sheik Abdulla Hazzaab, Sheik Hamed bin Abdulla Hazzaab, Sheik Mahomed bin Abdulla Hazzaab, Mukkee Hazzabee, and Commander Haines, the English agent, on the part of the Government.

We are now friends and promise peace and friendship, great and lasting friendship, and that our hearts and wishes are one.

Further, that there shall be peace and friendship with Aden, and that if any of our subjects, or the subjects of Britain pass into each other's territory, neither party shall be insulted or injured. We are one. If the subjects of either do wrong, they are to be given over for punishment by their own laws.

— No. 150. —

TREATY between the English and *Mohamed Jaffer bin Syed Hydroosse*, Chief of Wahert, and all under him.

2 February 1839.

WE agree to lasting peace and friendship.

Aden is open for our free intercourse and friendship, and so is our country to each other; and both parties agree there shall be no oppression or insult.

No. 148.

Captain Haines to  
Sultan M. Houssain,  
3 February 1839.

No. 149.

Treaty between  
the English and  
the Hazzabee  
Tribe,  
31 January 1839.

No. 150.

Treaty between  
the English, and  
Mohamed Jaffer  
bin Syed Hydroosse,  
Chief of Wahert,  
2 February 1839.



## — No. 151. —

No. 151.  
Treaty between  
the English and  
the Abdalees,  
2 February 1839.

TREATY between the *English* and the *Abdalees*, signed by Sultan *Mahomed Houssain's* accredited Agent and Son-in-law.

2 February 1839.

FROM this day and the future, Syed Mahomed Houssain bin West bin Hamed Suffran gives this promise to Commander Haines, gentleman, on his own head, in the presence of God, that there shall be friendship, lasting friendship, and peace, and everything good, between the English and Abdalees. I promise no wrong or insult shall be done, but it shall be peace; and the British Government agree to the same. Sultan Mahomed Houssain and all interior Sultans agree to this, and I am responsible. All those even on the roads to the interior, shall be kept from molesting any one, by me, as they were when Sultan M. Houssain possessed Aden. This is agreed upon between me and Commander Haines, on the part of Government; and I promise to do even more than I have hitherto done, please God. I require respect from Commander Haines in return, and more than before, if possible.

## — No. 152. —

No. 152.  
Treaty between  
the English and  
Sultan Mahomed  
Houssain,  
4 February 1839.

TREATY between the *English* and the Sultan *Mahomed Houssain* and his Children through his accredited Agent.

4 February 1839.

THIS treaty is formed between Syed Mahomed Houssain and Hassan Cutief, on account of the Sultan of Lahedge, and Commander Haines, the agent of the Government.

On the word and promise of Sultan Mahomed Houssain, I promise that no insult or molestation shall take place on the road, or between the English and my people, and that all shall be peace and quietness; and I agree, that between my people and your people, there shall be no difference or oppression, and that the English agree that all shall be peace, and that all merchants shall be free to trade without oppression.

## APPENDIX.

## — No. 153. —

No. 153.  
Remarks on Aden  
by Captain Haines,  
1838.

BRIEF REMARKS ON *Aden* or *Adden*, written by Captain *Haines* in 1838.  
(Extract.)

CAPE ADEN is a high rocky promontory, the highest peak of which is 1,776 feet above the sea. This mountainous cape, when viewed at a distance, appears an island, from the land connecting it with the main being exceedingly low, and quite a swamp in the vicinity of Khore Muksa; its summit forms in turreted peaks, having ruined forts and watch-towers on them; the hills are naked and barren, and the valleys but little better; the whole view has, however, a grand and picturesque appearance.

On the eastern side of this cape the town of Aden is situated, near the sea, from whence to the hills there is a plain of gradual ascent; surrounding it are the mountains, forming an amphitheatre.

In the reign of Constantine, Aden was called the Romanum Emporium, owing to its commercial celebrity, but there is now not more than 90 dilapidated stone buildings in the town, the rest are common cadjan huts, the whole huddled together without the slightest regularity, and built on the site of the old and once flourishing city. A visitor, when looking over the remains of this once opulent mercantile emporium, cannot but regret the causes which have led to so great a change in the course of a few centuries. Without going further back than the time of Solyman,  
we



we find Aden immediately fixed on as a port worthy the acquisition and conquest of the Turks and Portuguese; long and frequent struggles with great slaughter took place in consequence, and the town, on the decline of power between these two rival and ambitious nations, naturally again fell into the hands of its original masters, the Arabs, A. D. 1730, by whose bad system of government (that is of sole monopoly, united with tyranny and oppression both to the resident merchant and visitor,) the place has lost its repute, its merchants have been driven from it, and it is now a mere miserable village, without trade, and but seldom visited but by passing vessels, who anchor for protection in its splendid harbour; in fact, Aden has relapsed from her former eminence to poverty and misery.

Its scenery has been compared to Cintra by an eminent traveller, but in my opinion, to create such an idea, associations must be very vivid, and must be combined with other causes than the view before them; for in the dreary, dark and barren view of Shumsan there can be little to create a contrast, or recollection of that renowned and immortal hill.

That it was once a flourishing city there can be no doubt, for the remains of its walls, tanks, baths, fortifications, &c. are still visible, also an aqueduct, which must have been built at great expense and labour; it is 16,320 yards long, the depth of the water-course 19 inches, and breadth 16 inches; its whole breadth 4 feet 6 inches; its composition red brick and stone; it was generally considered a Roman road until the place was surveyed, when through the persevering exertion of the late Dr. Halton, the truth was ascertained.

This great undertaking was, I think, performed by the Turks to ensure a sufficient supply of good water to the increasing population of Aden, and also for the convenience of watering their galleys and shipping in Aden harbour; besides, what confirms me in the idea, that, for the large population at that period residing there, they were cautious of not trusting too implicitly to the doubtful seasons for rain, is the immense labour they took in cutting wells through the rock to the depth of from 50 or 60 feet, and even to 120 feet; and still further to ensure a large supply for their natural and luxurious demands, they built tanks in the valleys, which, when filled from the rain running down the mountains, run over, and the water descended into other reservoirs, built at a less elevation, to receive and preserve it, and so on to the third, fourth, and fifth reservoirs.

The present population of the village, for it is too insignificant to be called a town, consists of about 600 souls, 250 of which are Jews, 50 Banians, the rest Arabs, the two former being the only monied people, and possess the best houses.

It has a dowlah, a custom-master, with one or two assistants, and a guard, varying from 10 to 50 Bedouins, for its protection,

Its trade is very trifling. Bungalabs and other boats from India sometimes dispose of a few cotton cloths, small quantities of iron, lead, rice, on their way to Mocha; as do boats from the Gulf, dates; and boats from Burburra, sheep.

Their exports are small quantities of copper and jowaree. The dowlah will make what he can by water, wood, &c., also upon travellers, reserving a portion of the imposition for his master, the Sultan.

The government is despotic in the extreme, founded on the will, caprice and evasion of an old, imbecile man, who is rich beyond his neighbours, and hoards his pelf to the injury and injustice of his subjects. By his miserly conduct he has twice nearly lost his dominions; and it was only in 1836 that his neighbours, the Futhellee tribe, made an excursion into his territory, ransacked Aden of 30,000 dollars, and then returned without committing further devastation, by the advice of the head of the family of their revered saint, Sheik Hydroosse. The Futhellees have since made him pay an annual tribute of 360 dollars, 360 mensuries, and 40 camel loads of jowaree.

It is, I believe, generally admitted that one of the many causes that give rise to the wealth and power of a nation, is the justice and rectitude of her laws and system of government, a proper encouragement and distribution of labour, so that the produce of the soil may be increased to reduce the expenses of the necessities of life. The chief here disables himself by oppressing all, the poor in particular; 20 per cent. upon the produce of all wheat, besides the land-tax, goes to the chief; 10 per cent. upon jowaree, and for every male, whether poor or rich, he enforces one dollar annually; and should the head of a family die, every son who has attained manhood has for the next year to pay him an extra dollar; there is, in fact, a government tax on everything; the owners of bullocks, sheep, camels, &c., have to pay a tenth to the Sultan.



The Yaffaars and Houshibees each enforce an annual tribute of 180 dollars from him; and this money he obtains by increasing the oppression of his subjects, by whom he is detested. They however appear to have a great regard for his eldest son Hamed, who appeared to possess a far more liberal, generous and enlightened mind than his father.

During my stay in Aden this time, I visited, in company with three officers of the sloop Coote, the principal fortifications about Aden, and we discovered a most magnificent road leading to the summit of Gibul Shumsan, by which we ascended to visit the fortifications. A wall with small forts, containing reservoirs for water, originally extended along the whole range; but it has by time and exposure gone to decay; some remains are still visible. The road to ascend is, however, by far the most splendid remains of antiquity I have seen. It commences at about 900 or 1,000 feet above the level of the sea, and is built of large loose stones, so beautifully laid, that in some places it appears as if three centuries had not misplaced a stone; it is about 10 or 12 feet broad, and built in a zigzag direction up the mountain, the angle of the elevation varying from 20 to 40 degrees; its whole length to the summit, I should imagine, between 5,000 and 6,000 feet, and in some places it is built, to keep the line of ascent equal, full 20 feet high. What they could have incurred so much labour and expense for, I cannot conceive, for the mountain affords a most perfect barrier for the security of the town, without the line of fortifications that originally extended along it; but it at once convinces a person that Aden indeed must have been a place of the utmost importance, when they could commence and finish in such a masterly style so great an undertaking; it is one that would do credit to any engineer of the present day.

The fortified island of Seerah would, with the British, be a most important point of defence, as indeed it must have been originally, from the remains now visible. It is elevated above the sea 430 feet, and united, at low water, to the main by a narrow neck of land. It is very small, but being precipitous and easily defended, a most determined resistance could effectually be made by a handful of men against hundreds. It commands the eastern bay and town most completely.

Its original fortifications have been designed by a man of talent, and built strong, the triangular fort on the summit commanding the whole. All now are in a decayed and dilapidated state, except the round tower on the north point.

There are two reservoirs almost perfect, in fact they only require clearing out and rechunaming to make them retain water; one, either a well or a tank, is filled up. The lower fort is in a dilapidated state.

The tower is strong and perfect, and has a magazine under it; from it, at a gradual increasing elevation, there is a piece of ground capable of building on; it is about 380 feet long, and from 60 to 150 broad. This would be a very excellent place for any European troops, or for an hospital; it would insure them a cool refreshing breeze if one existed.

A rough sketch of the rock taken from the town, with a rough outline of its fortifications from the summit, will give a better idea than a written description. I therefore took one, and place it as an accompaniment to these brief remarks.

There are many extensive and splendid tanks built in the valleys surrounding the town, that only require repairs to enable a large population to receive an ample supply of water; there are also numerous fine wells in every part, one-fifth of which are now not used, and those even in daily use would afford treble the supply if cleaned out; others are entirely filled up: the water from the interior wells I found delicious. These considerations are worthy of notice, if Aden becomes a British port, for the population will be increasing daily, with trade. Near the shipping in the harbour or Gubet Toowye, I would recommend tanks being made, for it would well repay the expense by an after diminution of labour, as well as facilitate receiving the same; at present ships have to send their boats up near the pass, and their casks are filled from skins, conveyed partly by men and asses; it is very slow work, and much retarded by the monopolizing system of nearly one-half going to the Sultan, a perquisite to the dowlah, and one for the guard at the pass.

At present there is not a single house in Aden fit for a European to reside in; nor are there any bricklayers, carpenters, or blacksmiths; every material in the first instance must be brought from India, as well as men to erect dwelling-houses, fortifications, &c.; there are only two articles that can be obtained with advantage on this coast, which are the Zanzibar rafter, called by the Arabs khormedarah, and chunam from Maculla.

The



The imports and exports of Aden, as they now are, are scarcely worthy of remark, being so trivial; its exports are almost solely confined to jowaree and wheat, the produce of the low cultivated ground in the vicinity of Lahedge. Coffee is brought down for export from the inland mountains, but not shipped at Aden, owing to the severe duty enforced on every bag, which is between 16 and 18 dollars; the owners of the same, therefore, forward it to Bier Hamed, in the Haggrabee territory, the chief of which tribe, Sultan Hamed ben Maidee, only enforcing one and two dollars per bag on shipping it, thereby monopolizing the whole trade in coffee through his territory, which has given great offence to Sultan M. Houssain ben Fudthel of the Abdalees, who has by the numerical strength of his tribe enforced an annual tribute from the Haggrabees in consequence.

The imports are merely what few articles are required for the consumption of his tribe, and consist principally of rice, dates, cotton, spices, with a small quantity of iron and lead. On rice and dates he levies a duty of one dollar per bag, the original price being two and three dollars; and not content with that oppression, I have known the old Sultan purchase several hundred bags of dates, and then compel every merchant to take a certain portion from him for resale, he fixing the price, with the custom duties added.

Sheep are brought from Burburra during the north-east monsoon, and disposed of with profit, although the Sultan enforces a duty on the same.

Aden would, no doubt, if under the British Government, soon become a place of the first mercantile importance, and be a town of the first magnitude in Arabia, its geographical position at once pointing out its advantages, and its harbour being not only safe and easy of access, either by day or night, but sufficiently capacious to enable an immense fleet to ride within it in perfect security.

The town of Sennaa is only seven or eight days' journey from it for camels with merchandize; the coffee districts are actually nearer to it than Mocha, and the road equally safe and convenient. Other large towns in Yemen are not far distant from it, and the rich towns in the province of Hadhar-el-mout are open for its trade. Thus, in every point of view is Aden advantageous; and I feel confident that should it ever belong to the British, Mocha in a few years will decline, and become what Aden now is.

The mountains to the northward of Aden produce gums, frankincense, and coffee, which would soon find a way for export through a port under British law. Its harbour is immediately north of Burburra, so that vessels during the north-east monsoon can reach it with produce of Africa in 24 hours, and return with British or Indian produce and manufactures in another 24 hours; such facility must have its advantages. All the produce of Harrah and other large interior towns on the opposite coast would find its way into Aden for exportation, which consists of coffee, gums, myrrh, hides, elephants' teeth and tusks, gold dust, ostrich feathers, &c. &c.; in return, our piece goods, chintzes, cutlery, rice, &c., which would find a ready market.

The province of Yemen and Hadhar-el-mout would also be open for the introduction of our manufactures, and goods both of British and Indian produce.

The Surat merchants, Banians, nay even Arab merchants, would quit Mocha and other places for Aden, so as to ensure themselves greater security and protection, and more indulgent and just rule; and Aden, from containing a population of a few hundred, and a few miserable hovels, would in a few months contain thousands, and a flourishing town would be seen rising upon the site of its former magnificence.

Situated as Aden harbour is, a ship or boat can at all seasons visit it, and quit it with facility; not so from Mocha, for (particularly in January and February) if a merchant vessel once enters the Strait, and arrives at Mocha, she must either proceed upward with the southerly and incessant gales, or remain until they abate. I have known vessels in March, April, and May, six, seven and eight days getting from Mocha to the Straits, a distance of little more than 40 miles. These are considerations to the merchant worthy his attention, for the detention is not the only annoyance; his vessel, by being able to obtain a cargo at Aden, will save the great wear and tear which she would experience on her return from the sea, unless, like the present Arab merchant, she waited for the north-west winds in June and July; and it must be recollected that when blowing at Mocha from south by east a hard gale, a fine single reefed top-sail and top-gallant breeze from east-north-east will be blowing at Aden; in the former roadstead, a vessel will lie with a whole



chain an end, and top-gallant mast struck, and yards braced by, without being able to communicate with the shore; when at the same time, in Aden harbour, she will lie within a few yards of the shore, in perfect smooth water, with the bight of her chain scarcely taught.

It would be needless my remarking on the position of Aden for a coal depot, it having been already considered on by abler heads than mine; but as a sailor who well knows the place from long experience, it will not be considered presumptuous in my observing, it is the best adapted port in existence for our over-land communication *via* the Red Sea; it is in fact perfect as such, and, if a pier were built, steamers could at all times and seasons lay alongside of it and receive their coal.

I beg to apologize for the hasty manner in which I have written these few brief observations, other reports of greater consequence having completely occupied my time and attention.

S. B. Haines.

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— No. 154. —

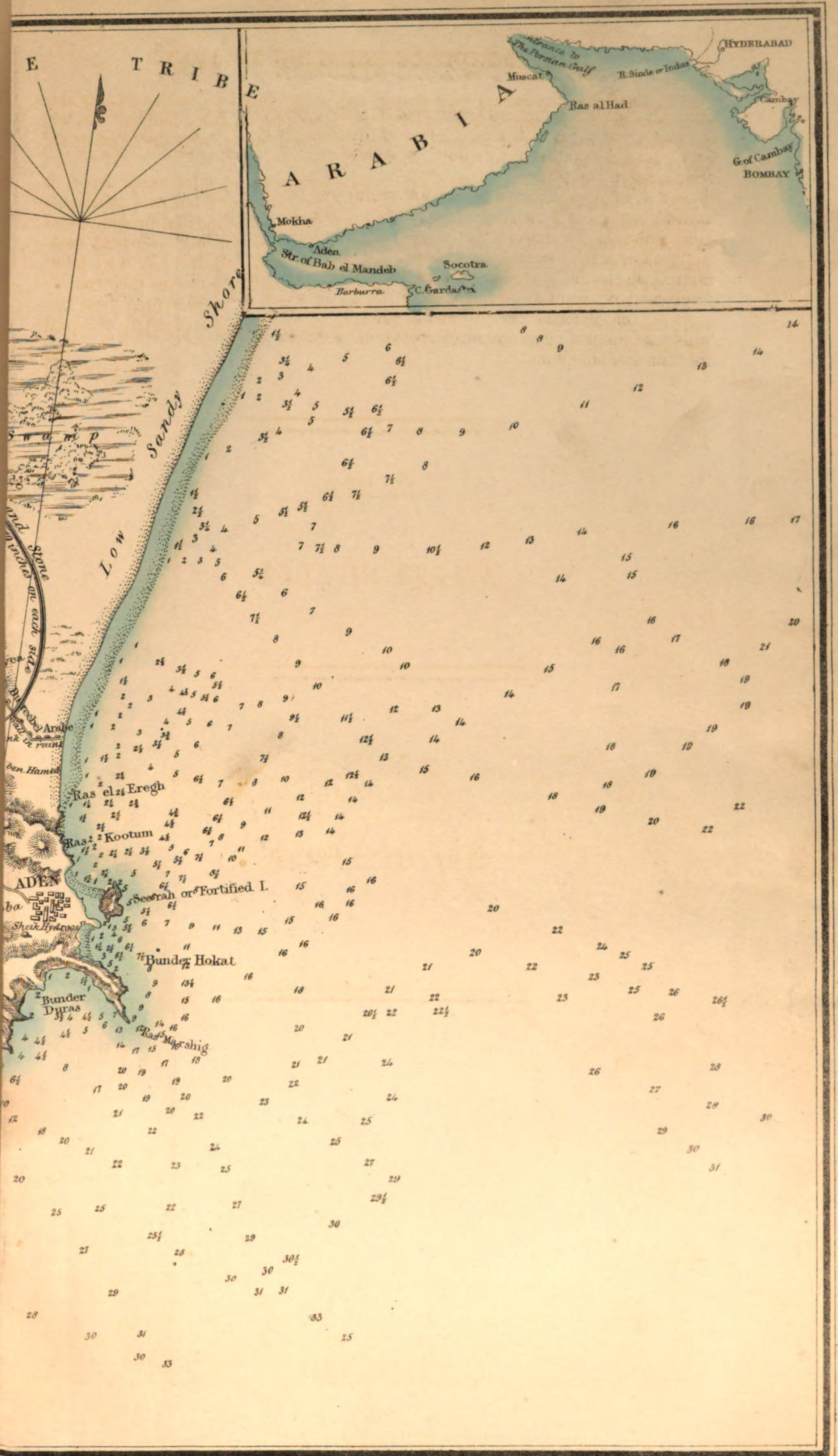
### CHART OF ADEN.

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— No. 155. —

### MAP OF YEMEN.

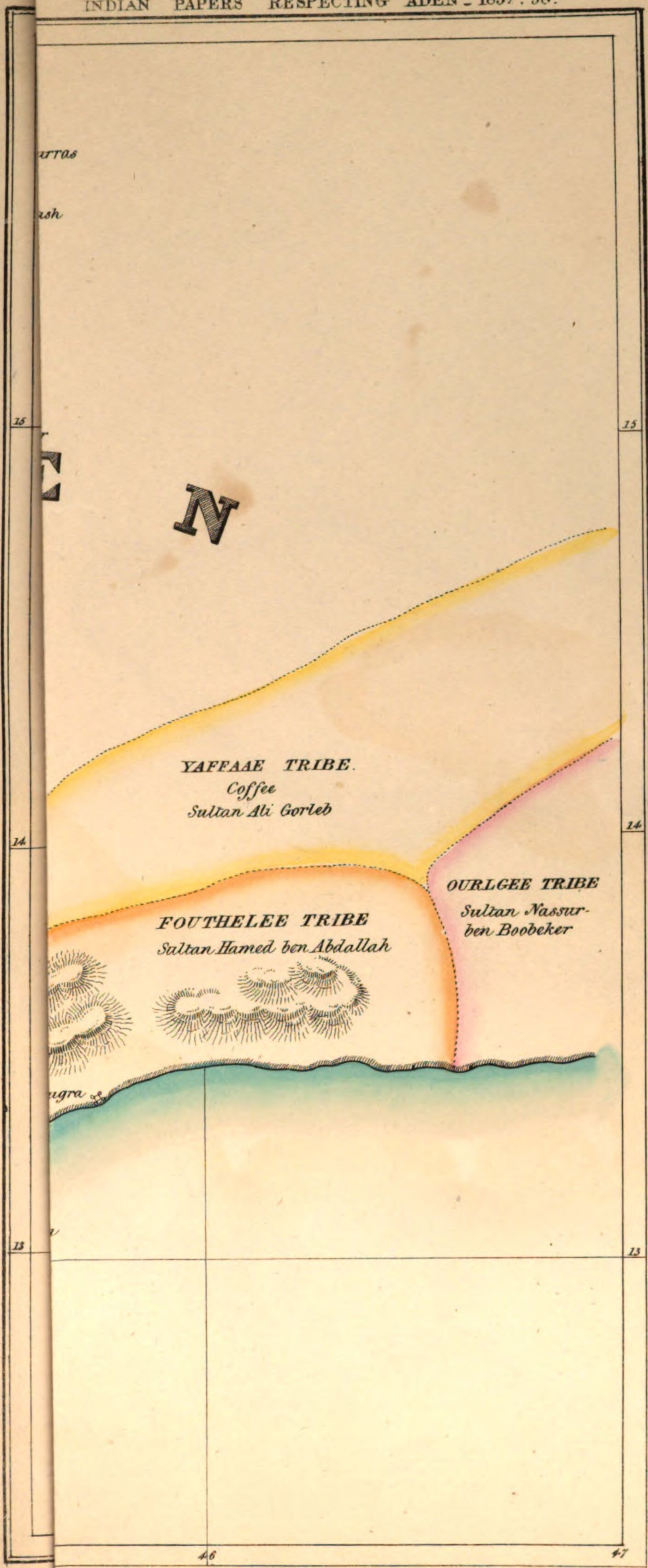


















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CORRESPONDENCE  
RELATING TO ADEN.

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[Presented to Parliament by Her Majesty's Command.]

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